The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, No. 75 Fifth Avenue.

TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 2 cents; delivered by carriers (per week) 15 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00, postage prepaid.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, 1876. NO. 85.

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FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Eastern Matters.

THE CONFERENCE TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK—GREEKS WANT CONCESSIONS — RUSSIAN AGENTS AMONG THE BULGARIANS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 15.—The preliminary conference will end to day or to-morrow, and the formal conference will probably commence next week.

The Greek population of Turkey have presented an address to the Porte, expressing devotion to the Government of Turkey, but at the same time protesting against its granting concessions exclusively to the Sclavic population.

The Governor of Vilayet of the Danube addressed a dispatch to the Grand Vizier, announcing that Russian agents are endeavoring to induce the Bulgarians to present an address to the conference demanding Russian occupation.

REASSURING LETTER FROM GORTSCHAKOFF.

PARIS, December 15.—*Le Temps* announces that the Russian Ambassador in Paris has received a letter from Prince Gortschakoff, declaring that Russia's instructions to General Ignatieff will show that she has not arrived at an irrevocable decision. The movements of Russian troops should not cause surprise. The Minister of War merely wished to prepare himself while diplomacy was endeavoring to avoid a conflict.

France.

THE NEW MINISTRY AND A NEW ERA.

PARIS, December 15.—The *Republique Francaise* unqualifiedly approves of the ministerial programme, and says the declarations made by M. Simon are excellent, and of a nature to satisfy and reassure public opinion, and that they justify the expectation of a new era.

Belgium.

THE LOSS BY THE BANK DEFALCATION $800,000.

BRUSSELS, December 15.—The loss to the Union Du Credit Bank by the defalcation of its President is estimated to be 4,000,000 francs. The manager attempted suicide. The absconding President is named Merique. Before leaving he wrote a letter explaining his operations, and said he had intended to commit suicide. His son-in-law says Merique is in Paris.

Italy.

ANOTHER CARDINAL DYING.

ROME, December 15.—Cardinal Patrizi is lying at the point of death.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 15.—The steamships Utopia and Cornwall, from New York, have arrived out.

A COMMITTEE SNUBBED.

The Western Union Telegraph Company Refuse to Produce Before Morrison's Investigating Committee Telegrams Sent by Republicans Concerning the Louisiana Election—Manly Letter from President Orton.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.,
NEW YORK, December 15, 1876.

Hon. Wm. R. Morrison, Chairman, and so forth, New Orleans, Louisiana:

SIR—Subpœnas have been served upon several employees of this company, directing them to produce before the Congressional committee, of which you are Chairman, all messages in possession of the company, sent and received by the persons named in the subpœnas during several months of the present year. I have delayed a reply to these demands in the expectation that similar applications would be made by a committee of the Senate, also charged with the investigation of matters connected with the Presidential election and canvass in the several States, so that the action of the company, being the same in respect to the messages of both political parties, could not be attributed to a desire to prejudice or promote the interests of either. No subpœnas have yet been served upon us by order of the Senate committee, and as further delay might appear to be a discourtesy to yourself and your committee, it does not seem proper to further postpone this answer. The subpœnas were served before the investigation which the committee had been directed to make was begun, and before evidence had been presented to the committee either that the persons named in the subpœnas had sent any messages whatever, or that any messages sent by them related to the subject-matter of the investigation. It appears to have been assumed that persons holding high official positions under the Federal and State Governments and other prominent in public affairs were in the habit of sending messages by telegraph, and without attempting to ascertain if any of these messages were material to the investigation, the officers and agents of this company have been commanded to lay aside the business in which they are engaged to become spies and detectives upon and informers against the customers who have reposed in us the greatest confidence concerning their official and their private affairs. If we never believed that the Congress of the United States, with this subject fairly before them, would permit committees to violate the secrecy of the telegraph in this manner, and if we do not believe the present is an opportunity which it would be unwise to forego for obtaining a decision directly from the representatives of the people, if the messages of persons connected with one political party are spread before the public, a like course will be taken in respect to those of the other party. Both parties, therefore, have the same interest in publishing to the world the secrets of the telegraph offices, or of preventing such publicity. It has, therefore, been decided to decline very respectfully to permit the employees of this company to produce before any committee of either House of Congress messages sent or received by the representatives of either the Democratic or the Republican party, at least until after Congress shall have approved the subpœnas of the committees and directed that their demands be enforced. I am, with great respect, etc., etc.,

WILLIAM ORTON,
President.

THE ICE-JAM AT ST. LOUIS.

The Gorge Solidified by the Cold Snap—No Present Danger to the Ice-Locked Steamboats—Details of Losses.

ST. LOUIS, December 15.—The weather turned very cold again last night and the mercury fell some twenty degrees below the freezing point. This has greatly solidified and strengthened the gorge in the river, and there seems to be no danger of further damage to the ice-locked steamers at the arsenal, at least until the weather moderates again, and the ice runs out. The boats not wrecked in the first crash, are in as favorable a condition as possible, and a large number of men are engaged repairing them to be ready for a move when the gorge breaks.

The wrecked steamers and their loss is about as follows: South Shore, $2,000; Southern Belle, $8,000; Fannie Keener, $12,000; insured for $5,000 in Cincinnati offices; Jennie Baldwin, $8,000; Davenport, $10,000; Rock Island, $10,000; Bayard, $5,000; Centennial, $60,000. The damage to other steamers and ferryboats, loss and damage of numerous barges and such like craft, will probably increase the total loss by the ice movement to nearly, if not quite, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

ST. LOUIS, December 15.—The river has fallen two feet to-day, supposed to have been caused by a channel cutting out under the ice gorge between here and Carondelet. The situation at the arsenal remains unchanged, except that the steamers there will be moved or are being placed in better quarters. The weather is moderating again quite rapidly, but there are no prospects of a speedy breakup. Commodore Davidson arrived to night from St. Louis, and made a thorough survey of the situation. He thinks the Centennial can be raised if the weather continues favorable, and that the loss to the fleet will be much less than previously reported. Should the Centennial be raised, the loss will be over $50,000. If she proves to be a wreck, it will exceed $60,000.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Youngstown to Have a Hanging.

CLEVELAND, O, December 15.—The motion for a new trial in the case of Charles M. Sterling, convicted of murder in the first degree at Youngstown, O., was overruled by Judge Canan, and the prisoner was sentenced to be hanged on the 28th of March next. Sterling's counsel will probably apply to the Supreme Court for a new trial.

Fight with Burglars.

COHOES, N. Y., December 15.—Four policemen surprised five burglars at work this morning on a safe in the depot of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company, this city. A rapid exchange of pistol shots followed. The result was three burglars escaped, and two were captured, one mortally wounded.

Indian Convicted of Murder.

LITTLE ROCK, December 15.—A full-blooded Arapahoe Indian was found guilty of murder in the first degree at Fort Smith to-day, in the United States District Court. Seventeen other murderers are to be tried.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1876.

SENATE.

On motion of Mr. Thurman, the bill reported from the Committee on Judiciary, on the 12th of July last, to amend the acts of July 1, 1861, and July 2, 1864, to aid in the construction of railroads from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean, was made the special order for the third Tuesday of January next. This is the bill which provides for the establishment of a sinking fund to liquidate the indebtedness due from the Pacific railroads.

Mr. Windom, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported without amendment the House bill to provide for the payment of the electoral messengers. Passed.

The resolution providing for an investigation in regard to the appointment of the Oregon elector was then taken up, and Mr. Thurman took the floor.

He said his object was to contribute something to the history of this Oregon case, and to show that there were two sides to it. This was a resolution calling for an investigation by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and he was surprised that the Chairman of the committee, Mr. Morton, had prejudged the whole case. The Governor of Oregon had not acted so palpably wrong as to authorize the Senator from Indiana [Morton] to declare that he was infamous. The ineligibility of Watts was not denied, and it could not be said that ignorance of the people of Oregon as to the ineligibility gave him the right to the office. If this was true, their ignorance was superior to the Constitution of the United States. According to the argument of the Senator from Indiana, if the voters of Oregon had cast their votes for Goldsmith Maid, the Governor would have been compelled to issue a certificate of election to her. He argued that the Governor of every State was called upon every day to exercise judicial power, and the Governor of Oregon may have consulted with one of the ablest lawyers in the country had concluded, that he had power to withhold the certificate from Watts and issue it to Crouin, and that it was his duty to exercise that power. He [Thurman] would not give his opinion as to any of the questions involved. He only wanted to show that there were two sides to this case. How could the Governor of Oregon certify that Watts was elected according to the Constitution, when he was not qualified under the Constitution? The thing was forced upon Governor Grover, and he had to decide it, and therefore was not subject to the anathemas which had been hurled against him.

Mr. Thurman, in conclusion, referred to the Clerk's desk and had read a lengthy opinion of Judge James Hoadley, of Cincinnati, as recently published in the Cincinnati *Commercial*, sustaining the course of Grover. When the Clerk read the paragraph in regard to an alleged plan to have Sherman, of Ohio, made President of the Senate for the purpose of counting the electoral vote, etc., Mr. Sherman said he wished to say this whole story about a conspiracy to elect him President of the Senate was simply a newspaper rowback, without one word of truth whatever.

Mr. Wallace said it is but just to remember the obligations under which the Governor of Oregon acted. He is the Executive of a State, and is also chosen to a seat on this floor, and we are bound to believe that he acted conscientiously in the performance of his grand duty. Amid the maze of authority quoted, it is plain that the law as to whether he can certify for a minority candidate is unsettled. It is surely a safer path to obey his oath and the supreme law than to certify in violation of both. It is not at least premature to censure the Governor? Whether to be right or wrong is safely left to an enlightened view of the law, when we have the facts fully before us. My mind inclines to the belief that no third elector has been legally appointed by Oregon. The statutes of Oregon themselves define what is a vacancy within their own meaning and a case of failure to elect is not included. It is the law, as contended for, that the majority candidate being ineligible, the minority candidate is not elected, then there is no vacancy but there is a failure to elect. If so, this brings the case within section 134 of the Revised Statutes, which is, Whenever any State has held an election for the purpose of choosing electors and has failed to make a choice on the day prescribed by law, the electors may be appointed on a subsequent day in such manner as the Legislature of such State may direct. If the doctrine of our friends be sound, then it follows that as the Legislature of Oregon has not provided by law for this case this has legally appointed but two electors.

Mr. Mitchell said there was presented in this discussion a spectacle wherein no Senator raised any question in regard to the vote of the people of Oregon at the election. It was not denied by any Senator, any newspaper, or any man anywhere of any political party, that a majority of the votes of the people of the State of Oregon, at the late election, were cast for the Republican electors. He [Mitchell] was not surprised that Senators on this floor declined to come directly to the front and defend the action of the Governor of Oregon. What he [Mitchell] wanted to know to-day was whether any member of the Democratic party was willing to rise up in his place and affirm the right of Governor Grover to adjudicate upon the eligibility of Watts. They dare not do it. He commented on the action of Governor Grover, and said it was a gross usurpation of power and a gross violation of law. He quoted at length from the Constitution and laws of Oregon, and argued that Senators on the Democratic side of the chamber had ignored the Constitution and laws of the State. They had evaded the question. The right to hold office was one of the highest rights of an American citizen, and how was he to be deprived of that right? Certainly not by the act of an executive officer. Under the Constitution and laws of Oregon, if a person voted for an elector who was ineligible, his election must be declared void by the decision of a competent tribunal, which tribunal was the Legislature of the State. That body had power to declare a vacancy, and the other electors, under the law of the State, had power to fill the vacancy, and in no possible event had the Governor the power to say that some one else was elected in place of Watts. He next referred to Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina, and said there was a question in those States as to which side had the majorities of the votes, but there was no such question as to Oregon.

Mr. Wright gave notice that on Monday next he would call up a bill reported from the Committee on Civil Service Retrenchment, reducing the salary of the President of the United States from $50,000 to $25,000 per annum. He said this bill had passed Congress at its last session, and had been vetoed by the President. The Committee on Civil Service Retrenchment had reported in favor of the passage of the bill, notwithstanding the veto, and he would not discuss the bill further and only ask for a vote on Monday.

Mr. Wright also gave notice that to-morrow or Monday he would introduce a bill to provide for the settlement of contested cases of President and Vice President.

Mr. Edmunds said he gave notice the other day that he would call up a bill to provide for and regulate the counting of the votes for President and Vice President and the discussion of questions arising thereon, but as a Senator now indisposed desired to be heard on that bill, he had not called it up.

A resolution fixing the compensation of witnesses summoned before the Senate or any of its committees at three dollars per day and five cents per mile each way for traveling expenses, was passed with an amendment providing that witnesses residing west of 110 meridian be paid seven cents a mile each way, when the place of their examination shall be east of the Mississippi river.

Pending the discussion, Mr. Windom called up the bill making an appropriation to provide for the expenses of certain special committees, and on his motion the Senate non-concurred in the amendments of the House of Representatives, and a committee of conference was ordered. The Chair appointed as such committee Messrs. Windom, Logan and Davis.

Mr. Edmunds called up the message from the House announcing the passage of a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to act with a committee of the Senate to devise some method of counting the electoral vote, and submitted a resolution referring the message of the House to a select committee to be composed of seven Senators with power to prepare and report without unnecessary delay such a measure as will secure a lawful count of the electoral vote and the best disposition of all questions connected therewith, and that said committee have power to confer with a committee of the House of Representatives. Laid over until Monday and ordered printed.

After an executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The bill to pay the expenses of investigating committees, reducing the amount for the Senate from $50,000 to $30,000, and increasing that for the House from $21,000 to $50,000, gave rise to some political discussion, conducted on the Republican side by Mr. Hale, of Maine, and on the Democratic side by Messrs. Holman and Cox.

In the course of the discussion the report of the Democratic visitors to Louisiana was read from the Clerk's desk. Its printing in the *Congressional Record* is thus secured.

Mr. Hale, a member of the Appropriation Committee, opposed the reduction of the sum for the Senate, and spoke of the great anxiety of the American people to learn the true state of affairs in those Southern States. He therefore argued that there should be no pinch of committees.

Mr. Holman remarked that the Democratic side of the House had certainly shown as great anxiety for inquiring into the events of the late election as the Republican side had, which had opposed with great earnestness and with only three or four exceptions the appointment of these committees.

Mr. Cox, of New York, took part in the discussion, and commented on the refusal of Governor Wells, of Louisiana, to respond to the summons of the investigating committee.

Mr. Hale replied that all the documents were supplied.

Mr. Cox—But we want the originals. Why withhold them? The pretext is that this Returning Board must report to the Legislature of Louisiana. Your model Governor there defers to the bogus Legislature, and not to the American Congress. I am ashamed that that side of the House does not at once rise up and instruct its pet Governor to respond to the demand of the committee.

Mr. Townsend, of New York [impetuously]—The being ashamed is mutual. [Loud laughter.]

Mr. Cox—My colleague, who always breaks in out of order, has just made a confession before the people. I am glad of it. Confession is good for the soul. He acknowledges that the shame is on his side of the house. We do not acknowledge any shame on this side.

Mr. Hale—Because you are incapable of it.

Mr. Cox—Now you sit down! [Laughter.] My colleague said that the shame is mutual. I suppose he meant between himself and the gentleman from Maine [Hale] [Laughter.] We have no shame—[Shouts of derisive laughter on the Republican side].

Mr. Hale—That is it exactly. We will not have any controversy about that.

Mr. Cox—I mean that there is no foundation on which to build anything shameful. Why should we be ashamed? Your Returning Board in Louisiana sat in secret.

Mr. Hale—No, sir!

Mr. Cox—Oh, yes!

Mr. Hale—No, sir!

Mr. Cox—Why did not they put a Democrat on the board?

Mr. Hale—Does the gentleman want me to answer that?

Mr. Cox—Yes.

Mr. Hale—The Returning Board as originally constituted—

Mr. Cox [impatiently]—I do not want you to go back so far as that. Answer the question, yes or no. Did not the Returning Board sit the last two days in secret?

Mr. Hale—It did not. The board considered all the questions openly and then retired for deliberation as judges do. [Derisive laughter on the Democratic side]. But there was no business issues of the board in secret. Now, as to the question, "Why did they not appoint a Democrat?"

Mr. Cox [again impatiently]—That will do.

Mr. Hale—Does the gentleman decline to let me answer that?

Mr. Cox—I decline further interruption.

Mr. Hale—I thought it likely you would.

Mr. Cox, continuing, said: If I am not mistaken, the time will come when that side of the House, in accord with the Senate, will demand that we shall go below all these parishes of Louisiana and elsewhere. Thus, and thus only, can this great question of the Presidency be settled. Thus, and thus only, can content and peace come to our beloved country. With all sincerity and in all good faith, I second the effort of my friend from Maine to make this investigation thorough and complete. Let him not take one step backward, and he shall have the honor which belongs to a gentleman and patriot.

Mr. Hale then took the floor to respond to Mr. Cox. He declared that if the other side was really anxious for a fair investigation into the condition of the Southern States, here was an excellent opportunity to improve it by giving to the Senate stopped on its way at Raleigh, arrived last night. Senator Merrimon is expected to-morrow morning, when the committee will proceed to work.

The House committee examined several witnesses, and have obtained returns from nearly all the precincts but about fifteen, which will be supplied by telegraph.

W. D. Simpson, Democratic Lieutenant Governor, to day sent a letter to the Senate, claiming his election and demanding his seat. Senator Spencer, to whom the letter was read and referred to the Judiciary Committee for report.

Another ballot was taken to-day for United States Senator by the Democrats, in joint session. The vote was scattering, and no choice.

NEW YORK, December 15.—The *Times'* special from Columbia says: It was understood that after the inauguration of Hampton yesterday, the Democratic members of the Senate would withdraw from the Chamberlain Legislature and go over to Carolina Hall, but the opening of the Senate to-day found them all in their seats as usual, and Hampton's adherents left without an Upper House. The trouble is, they cannot agree among themselves as to the proper course to pursue. Some of them held that it was a fatal mistake for the Hampton men of either House to withdraw from the regular Legislature; that they ought to have remained where there could be no question as to the legality of their position, and thus have gained a great advantage they could. Had they done this, they thought they might have secured the Speakership, and possibly have captured enough Republicans to make Hampton governor. But as it is, they have put themselves in an absurdly false position, and the more closely their position is examined the less willing or honorable employment. Address W. H. B., Commercial Office.

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No one appears to know what will be the next move of Hampton or his Assembly, and it is doubtful whether they know themselves. If their Senators secede, as was expected, and order new elections to fill vacancies, the regular Senators will also order elections to fill vacancies in their body, and if the elections take place at the same time and are fairly conducted the Republicans will get three to one in one. It is pretty certain that Judge Carpenter will decide the injunction suit, brought against Cardozo to prevent his paying out State funds as Governor, in favor of the Treasurer, and thus the attempt to block the financial wheels of the State government will fail.

Simpson, the claimant to the Lieutenant Governorship, sent a communication to the Senate to-day, reciting that he had been elected Lieutenant Governor and had taken the oath of office, and that he was present in Columbia and ready to assume the duties of his office, and respectfully claimed his seat as presiding officer of the Senate. No action on this communication was presented by a Democratic Senator, and after being read, was, on motion of a Republican Senator, referred to the Judiciary Committee, where it will probably have a permanent rest, unless it shall be deemed expedient to make it the subject of a report showing the illegality and absurdity of the Hampton and Simpson inauguration ceremonies.

The Northern Democrats have, doubtless, been regaled during the last few days with the recital of a horrible negro plot to massacre all the whites in Abbeville county. The whole thing was concocted here for the Northern Democratic market, and is so utterly absurd that I have not thought it worth while to mention it until I found it printed and apparently credited by some Northern papers. It is sufficient to say there is not a word of truth in it, and wherever such slanders against the colored race are repeated, as they will be, they will be denied. It is unnecessary for a sensible man to call to mind the fact that this is the same race which, for years, were the only support and protection of the women and children of the South while their masters were away fighting to perpetuate their bondage. If they had been a blood-thirsty race, given to the massacre of women and children, then was their opportunity; and their docility and humanity at that time ought to protect them against such slanders now. The facts about the shooting of a white man named Allen, in Abbeville, will be made known in a few days, when it will doubtless appear that the whites were the first aggressors, as usual. Thus far it is only known that one white man was shot and three negroes have been poisoned in retaliation. As for the story about a negro plot to massacre the whites, there is not a man in South Carolina who believes a word of it, although there may be some who think that the crimes committed against the negroes in that county would justify it.

The House Congressional committee has been busy all day and evening, trying to discover some error in the proceedings of the Canvassing Board, but would discover none, but thus far have not succeeded in finding a single vote from the precincts heard of by the board. It has finally leaked out what the Democrats on the committee are driving at. They only hope now to discover an error which will enable them to claim one Tilden elector in place of Hurley, whose majority, owing to a purely clerical error, was only 256. They thought this forenoon they had found it, but it only turned out a mare's nest. In one of the precincts of Greenville county, the legal name of which is Yasagan, the managers made their return Yasagan, the managers made their return under the local name of Gant, which is the name of the township. The Democrats seized upon it as a missing return, and thought they had got 169 additional votes for Tilden, but the matter was explained on cross-examination by their own witness, and Tilden's hopes were once more blasted. There is scarcely a doubt that the Democrats on the committee understood the facts about this precinct from the beginning, but hoped the Republicans did not, and thought to profit by their ignorance. This illustrates the manner in which they are conducting the investigation. There does not appear to be a Democrat on the committee who has manliness and honesty enough to come out and admit what every intelligent Democrat here does admit, that Hayes and Wheeler carried this State, and that it is useless to attempt to smuggle in even a single Tilden elector.

The Senate committee will commence work to-morrow. They will confine their investigations to the manner in which the election was conducted here. During General Gray's harangue to the crowd in front of the Wheeler House, yesterday, after telling his hearers not to commit violence or do any shooting until they were commanded to do it by their leader, Hampton, he added that when the shooting did begin, they should commence with Chamberlain and shoot down.

FIRE RECORD.

CHARLESTON, December 15.—A large portion of the thriving town of Blackville, Barnwell county, has been destroyed by fire. A fire started in A. Aser's store and consumed over twenty stores and residences, with the S. C. Railroad depot and sheds, telegraph and express offices. Estimated loss forty thousand dollars; insurance unknown. There is much excitement in town, as the fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.

An incendiary fire also took place yesterday at the town of Florence, burning several buildings.

Witnesses from Oregon.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 15.—A private dispatch from Portland, Oregon, says: Odell, Cartwright and Watts, Republican Presidential electors, and George A. Steel, Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, will leave for Washington on Saturday.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—Decidedly colder, northerly to westerly winds, rising barometer and clear or fair weather.

There was no sitting of the preliminary conference at Constantinople, yesterday. The next will be held on Monday.

In a row on a steamboat at New Orleans, yesterday, two colored men were shot. The man who did the shooting was arrested.

The Democrats of Jeffersonville, Ind., "ratified" the election of Tilden and Hendricks last night, by a meeting, speeches, firing 204 guns, &c., &c.

The relations of Spain and the Vatican are not very friendly, principally in consequence of the dispute in relation to the Italian Church in Madrid.

The London *Standard's* Vienna dispatch reports that Servia has requested Russia to commission General Ignatieff to represent Servia at the conference.

Nothing of importance was elicited by the Congressional committee at Tallahassee, yesterday. The Supreme Court will render its decision in the mandamus case to-day.

At Norristown, a meeting was called and "The Montgomery County Reform Association," — mostly Germans, was formed, the object being to form an independent political organization and to keep out lawyers.

Keystone Flour.

Those of our readers who desire to receive the best flour in the market, at the lowest rate, should purchase the Keystone Flour. This brand of flour has never failed to give entire satisfaction to all who have tried it. The only fault to find in the handling of this brand is Allen Kirkpatrick & Co., the well-known wholesale grocers, flour and seed dealers, 23 and 25 Liberty street. They make prompt shipments, both in sacks and barrels. Their stock of fine New Orleans molasses is very large, and they are selling at the lowest prices. TuThS

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WANTED—TO SELL OR EXCHANGE—For Pittsburgh property, a large farm in Philadelphia, with all modern improvements, formerly owned by Address J. E. MITCHELL, 245 Pine street, Philadelphia.

WANTED—A SITUATION—AS SALESMAN by a young man who has a thorough business; can influence considerable trade; the best of reference given if required. Address BOX A, Commercial Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION—HAVE HAD considerable experience as clerk, &c., in several branches of business, and can produce first-class references. Address "F," Lock Box 338, city.

DIVORCES FOR CITIZENS OF ANY State legally procured under a late law, for incompatability, &c. Residence or attendance at court not required. Fee after Divorce. Circular free. REED'S AMERICAN LAW AGENCY, Pike's Opera House, Cincinnati, O. 7:ths

BUSINESS CHANCES.

BUSINESS CHANCE—$1,500 TO $2,000 will purchase a profitable

MANUFACTURING BUSINESS.

Only those that mean business need apply to 125 LIBERTY STREET.

BUSINESS CHANCE—IMPORTANT TO THOSE LOOKING FOR BUSINESS—WANTED—A man with $300 or $600 capital, who is a first class solicitor or salesman and can give bond of $3,000, and to take an ACTIVE personal interest in paying and established financial commercial business. None but an ACTIVE and ENERGETIC man need apply. Address Hampton & Co., 84 Fifth avenue.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—A few small second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand. JAMES HILL & Co., corner Marion avenue and P., Ft. W. & C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—DRUG AND PRESCRIPTION WORK in one of the best locations in the city, doing a good business; can be bought at a reasonable price by any one meaning business; satisfactory reasons given for selling; by an old dressmaker, in full name, "A. F." Lock Box 160, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—ONE 14 BY 24 IN. ENGINE, 12 by 24 in., 8 by 24 in., 8 by 24 in., and 8 by 12 in., second-hand, and will be sold cheap; also, a lot of Pulleys, Hangers, Shafting and Belting, 10 second-hand Boilers, 8 new Engines of different sizes, at THOS. CARLIN'S, 186 Lacock street, Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—IRON PAINT—THE BEST AND cheapest paint in the market; is unequaled for painting cars, bridges, steamboat decks and hulls, roofs, iron, brick and wooden buildings, iron and tin work, &c., &c. Send for circular and price list. PITTSBURGH IRON PAINT COMPANY, 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—SHULTZ'S PATENT BELTING AND LACE LEATHER—Is superior to Leather or Gum, and is below them in price. Does not stretch, get hard or crack. We will allow purchasers a reasonable time to test it, and should it fail to prove satisfactory we will take it back and refund the money paid. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—A RARE CHANCE TO INVEST —A first class Circular Saw Mill in the Saginaw Valley for sale. Full equipments for railroad or water shipments. Planing Mill, all new machinery and new fixtures; three million feet of timber, well assorted, on the yard. All offered for sale on easy terms. A splendid opportunity for Ohio or Indiana lumber dealers to secure a mill and manufacture their own stock. For particulars, apply to J. L. CLASSEE, Indianapolis, Ind. be ampsdtues.

FOR SALE—72 ACRES OF LAND—LAying very pretty in Beaver county, Pa.; good soil, well improved, watered and fenced; orchard, limestone and coal; good 2-story frame house and all necessary outbuildings; 2 barns; 2 miles from railroad station, 4 miles from Beaver Falls; 6 head of cows, pigs, harness, &c.; hay, corn, oats and other grain; all the farming implements, &c., including everything, for $4,600, on easy payments. Possession given at once. Inquire of ED. WITTISH, Beaver Falls, or every Tuesday at NO. 57 GRANT STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—TWO FURNISHED Rooms for gentlemen, at 285 Penn avenue.

FOR RENT — WAREHOUSE — A TWO-story brick warehouse, 150 First avenue, immediate possession given. Inquire of W. THOMSON, 140 Fifth avenue.

FOR RENT—4 NICE DWELLINGS—ON Hiland avenue, East End; large grounds, with fruit trees, etc. Rent very low. Inquire of LOCKHART & FREW, 174 Wood street.

FOR RENT — HOUSE — A TWO-STORY brick house and ten acres of ground on second avenue, Twenty-third ward, Pittsburgh. Immediate possession given if desired. Inquire of W. W. THOMSON, 140 Fifth avenue.

FOR RENT—HOUSE—A DWELLING OF 5 Rooms and Finished Attic, on Center avenue, near Soho street. Water in kitchen. Rent reasonable. Call on G. E. NORTH, Commercial Office, after 2:30 P. M., or address No. 154 Center avenue.

NOTICES.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—Notice is hereby given that Joseph Turnbull & Co. gave a note to John Stoff for $800, dated between 8th and 12th November, 1876, for 4 months. Parties are hereby cautioned against negotiating said note, as we will not honor same on maturity.

JOS. TURNBULL & CO.

Pittsburgh, December 7, 1876.

NOTICE TO VENDERS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.—All persons found selling fruit and vegetables from unbranded boxes and baskets (used as measures) will be dealt with according to law.

W. W. TYSON,
County Sealer of Weights and Measures.
No. 41 Federal street.
Office Hours—8 A. M. to 5 P. M.

ELECTION NOTICES.

BANKS.

GERMAN NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH—The Annual Election for Nine Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.

J. LAURENT, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1876.

EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.—The annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, No. 46 Fifth avenue, on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 12 M.

A. LONG, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 8, 1876.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BIRMINGHAM—The Annual Election for Seven (7) Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 2 and 4 P. M.

JOHN P. BEECH, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, Pa., December 8, 1876.

MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK.—ELECTION.—The annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, No. 61 Fourth avenue, on TUESDAY, January 9th, 1877, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

W. A. SHAW, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 9th, 1876.

IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK.—ELECTION.—The annual Election for Thirteen Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 1 and 3 P. M.

GEO. R. DUNCAN, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, Pa., December 8, 1876.

PITTSBURGH NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE—ELECTION—An election for nine Directors, to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at the Bank on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

GEO. R. DUNCAN, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 8, 1876.

THIRD NATIONAL BANK—ELECTION—The annual election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

F. M. GORDON, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 9, 1876.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY—ELECTION—The annual election for Directors of this bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 12 M.

CYRUS CLARKE, Jr., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 9, 1876.

CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK—ELECTION—The annual election for 9 Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House on the SECOND TUESDAY OF JANUARY, 1877 (January 9), between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

JOHN WILSON, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 8, 1876.

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK—ELECTION—An election of Directors to serve the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 9, 1877, from 11 to 1 o'clock.

W. McCANDLESS, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 8, 1876.

RELIGIOUS.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WOOD STREET, corner of Sixth avenue.

Sabbath Services at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M.

Sabbath School at 2½ P. M.

Strangers and those who attend no other Evangelical Church are cordially invited to worship with us.

POLITICAL.

FOR MAYOR,

S. J. WAINWRIGHT,

FIFTEENTH WARD,

Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR MAYOR,

JARED M. BRUSH.

Subject to the decision of the City Republican Convention.

FOR MAYOR,

JOS. A. BUTLER.

Subject to the Republican City Convention.

FOR CITY TREAS

The Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1876.

THE Democratic pilots and helmsmen are scuttling their own ship.

IN THE present crisis, that man or journal who addresses the passions instead of the judgments of men, commits a great crime.

IF WORDS were bullets, nearly every Democratic leader in the North would be a duplex Gatling gun. Out of their nostrils goeth smoke, and their breath kindleth flames. Selah!

THE New Hampshire Constitutional Convention, now in session, has decided to abolish the religious test, to hold the election biennially in November, and to make judges, solicitors of probate, solicitors and sheriffs elective officers.

NOW that Dr. SCHLIEMANN has discovered the tomb of AGAMEMNON, he should direct his eagle eye towards the tomb of ADAM, the place of which is indicated in MARK TWAIN'S "Innocents Abroad." In this country, at least, there has always been a doubt as to TWAIN'S accuracy upon that particular point. If there *is* such a tomb we may rest sure that SCHLIEMANN will find it as soon as he undertakes the search.

UNDER the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa that women can hold the office of county superintendent, there is said to be nothing to prevent women holding any office except that of members of the Legislature and judges of the superior courts. For these offices the Constitution says they must be male citizens and qualified electors. For all other offices the word "person" is used. It will now be in order for women to sail in, and it will not be suprising if some of the able feminine lawyers now practicing in that State do not reach a judge's bench.

FOR the first thirteen Presidential elections the President of the Senate, under instructions of the Congress, issued certificates to the successful candidates for President and Vice President, stating over his own signature that he [the President of the Senate] had *opened and counted* the electoral votes, and that he [the successful candidate] was elected. This was the practice from the very beginning of the Government, and as it has the sanction of those who framed and thoroughly understood the Constitution, the present acting Vice President can, with great propriety as well as safety, follow so well established a precedent.

SENATOR INGALLS, of Kansas, wants to hold a national convention to frame a new Constitution or amend the present one. No, thank you. The experience of the country in amended constitutions has not been of the most cheering kind, and while we confess the present Constitution is in some respects defective, we prefer it as it is to submitting it to a convention that would try to incorporate into it such crudities and absurdities as minority representation, State rights, nullification and a National Government shorn of everything like national power. A repetition of the present complication cannot be prevented by any such expedient.

THE net exports of specie from New York up to the present time are the smallest in amount of any year for a long time. At the close of last week the exports for the the year were $42,743,373, and the imports $17,787,186; so that the excess of exports was slightly below twenty-five millions. Last year, at the same date, they were more that fifty-five millions; in 1874 they were forty-eight millions; and in 1873, the highest year for exports of coin except this year since 1869, they were nearly thirty millions. The very large amounts now on the way hither will probably reduce the net export for the current year to less than twenty million dollars.

THE managers of the Western Penitentiary, with praiseworthy zeal, have asked the State Board of Charities to recommend to the Legislature that the old House of Refuge property be transferred by the State to the penitentiary for an intermediate prison. This is in every way desirable, as we have heretofore shown; but as the State does not own the old House of Refuge property, we fail to see how it can transfer that of which it has no possession. This property belongs to a private corporation, and not to a State; and while the State has a mortgage upon it, to secure advances made to the Morganza School of Reform, it has no title or present *claim to the property itself.*

MR. HOPKINS and Mr. COCHRAN both voted for RANDALL for Speaker, as well in the caucus as in the open House, and both pretend to believe that Mr. RANDALL is a protective tariff man. Yet this Mr. RANDALL has just appointed Mr. WATTERSON, of Kentucky, to fill the vacancy in the Committee on Ways and Means caused by the transfer of Mr. BLAINE from the House to the Senate. Common decency required the Speaker to appoint a Republican to fill that vacancy; but Mr. RANDALL knows nothing of common decency, and he appointed WATTERSON, a free trader, to fill the place of BLAINE, a protectionist, with the full knowledge that he *was* a free trader, and that his appointment would secure that committee to the interests of free trade.

THE Southern Democratic papers are very loud and emphatic in their declarations that TILDEN must be inaugurated, even at the fearful cost of war and bloodshed; but they are especially careful to add that the Northern Democrats must do all the fighting this time. This chills the Brigadier General of the *Post* to the very marrow of his bones. He is so blatant and noisy that he cannot help being a coward, as all noisy threateners are. If there is to be no war until the warriors of the *Post* stripe take the field and resort to actual violence, it will be safe enough to lay aside all fears of a sanguinary struggle. All these Northern blowhards belong to that terrible army described by BEN. HILL, who are "invincible in peace and invisible in war."

THE ministerial party in England have just received another severe blow by the loss of a seat in the House of Commons. In order to make one of the new judges, they had to take the member for Frome, Somersetshire, whom their party elected at the last general election by a majority of eighty-five. At the late election the Liberals not only overcame that majority, but elected their man by a clear majority of ninety-three, and this with an aggregate of only 1,200 votes. This is now the fifth important borough that has reversed the results of the last general election, and if this sort of thing goes on much longer, DISRAELI, or whoever shortly succeeds him as Premier, will find his once magnificent majority in the Lower House transformed into an actual minority. The Frome election turned mainly on the Eastern question, and the result is a decided and deserved rebuke to the Government.

EXACTLY how that resistance will be made, or when the blow will be struck, is to be developed by circumstances, but if any man believes Hayes can be inaugurated as the case now stands, he will mistake the determination and courage of the Democracy.—*Post.*

Our contemporary needs a dose of BEN. HILL'S soothing syrup. The "resistance" at which the *Post* hints will, should it be offered, be ended very quickly and decisively. There is but one course the Democratic party can profitably take. That is to quietly and peacefully accept the result. On the supposition that the House is willing to make some sort of "resistance," what sort of a show would they make? With the army, the navy, the Treasury, and twenty-two organized States in the hands of the Republicans, their rebellion would be ended in thirty days. The petty tricks of Tammany, the poltroonery of demagogues, may be enacted on the little hitts theaters, but they will not do for the Senate of the United States, and they will not be submitted to when they take the form of unconstitutional action. The Republicans have calmly submitted to see Mississippi, Alabama and North Carolina taken from them by the most palpable frauds and intimidation. That must now stop. We must have an end of it. The Republic must protect both the citizen and the ballot-box, or it will not long survive; for the bulldozed election of November 7th means, in the sequel, the practical disfranchisement of every Republican voter in the United States.

DISTRUST OF SOUTHERN MEN.

The Northern Democrats in Congress are extremely suspicious of the Southern Democratic members. The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* embodies these suspicions in the following dispatch:

Ben. Hill reflects the sentiments of not a few of his Southern colleagues in asserting that, if Tilden is beaten out of his election, it is much better to escape from the ills under which they now suffer by making friends with Hayes than to endure a policy of hate which has been the crowning feature of their sufferings under Grant. A prominent Democrat from the South, who does not care to be mentioned by name, said to-night: "If we don't win the fight I am not sure but what it would be better to join hands with Hayes. What is the use of our keeping up the empty shell of organization and lose control of our own affairs?"

I have been slow to harbor the belief that this feeling existed. When it was first broached it had such a fishy smack that it seemed incredible, yet the apathy, the utterances, the impression acquired by association and conversation with Southern members leads to this conclusion.

The Democratic remedy for all this is—bluster. The correspondent adds:

This is not the idle vagary of a too fecund imagination. It is too painfully a fact. If the Democrats of the North do not take some bold, firm, aggressive and determined attitude at once there is the danger that when they wake up the golden opportunity will have passed. Hayes has put out a tempting bait, and the men who have lived, as it were, in hell on earth don't pause long to inquire into the means or ways through which relief comes. The South want the local government of their own, even if they jeopardize a Presidency, and they are losing faith in the nerve of the Democrats of the North.

This accounts, then, for the noise and fury prevalent at Washington and elsewhere among the Northern Democrats. It is to keep the Southern Democrats straight and prevent them from yielding their assent to HAYES' inauguration. The "bold, firm, determined and aggressive attitude" of RANDALL and his fire-eaters is simply so much theatrical display, intended for effect on BEN. HILL and his Southern colleagues. As the Southern Democrats were not brought up in the woods to be scared by owls, the presumption is that all this bloviation will, in the end, pass for nothing.

TILDEN, the model Democratic reformer and financial bulldozer, has at last filed his answer to the complaint of HENRY H. BOODY; and, while he could not plead the "baby act" to a just claim, sets up the plea of the statute of limitations. In other words, he admits that the debt might be recovered, had the suit been instituted in time. It was set forth by complainant that, in 1864, TILDEN, BOODY and others got up a "pool" to purchase a controlling interest in the Chicago and Galena Union Railroad Company, and to consolidate that company with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company. TILDEN was a director and member of the Executive Committee of the latter company. TILDEN had about one-ninth interest in the pool, and the consolidation was effected on a basis mutually agreed upon. BOODY raised the necessary funds, $2,715,430 21. The net profit in the transaction was only $34,673 80. TILDEN'S share of this was less that $4,000; but in August, 1864, and before the accounts of the pool were made up and balanced, the parties to the speculation supposed that they had made about two hundred and forty thousand dollars, and TILDEN drew, as his share, from BOODY, $26,000 in shares of the Chicago and Northwestern Company's stock then in the hands of BOODY as the manager of the pool. Soon after this transaction there was a change in Mr. BOODY'S firm, as also a change of bookkeepers, and the account of the pool transaction remained, without Mr. BOODY'S knowledge, unbalanced until the summer of 1875, when on examining this account he found it was unbalanced. He thereupon caused it to be balanced, and then discovered that TILDEN had overdrawn his share over $22,000. Mr. BOODY immediately notified TILDEN of this, and asked the latter either to examine the account himself or send a bookkeeper in whom he had confidence to do it for him, and to make such settlement as should appear just and equitable. After nine months' delay, TILDEN refused to do anything in the matter. The present suit was therefore begun to recover the $22,000 and interest, the whole amount being about $40,000. The complaint was served on TILDEN on May 6, 1876. When he was sued he was frankly told that he might evade payment by pleading the statute of limitations, and thus the complainant appealed solely to his sense of honor and justice. He asked for time to answer until after the St. Louis Convention, and it was granted him. He then asked for further time within which to write his letter of acceptance, and this was also granted. After this much-delayed event he asked for more time, as he was busy organizing his canvass, and it was refused, unless he would agree not to plead the statute of limitations, which agreement he refused to make. He applied to the court from time to time for further delays until after the vote of the electoral college should be cast. The court granted him the time, until he had in all 220 days in which to answer the complaint. On Monday last, the "great reformer" swore to his answer; and, after making various immaterial denials, comes to the gist of the defense, "that the alleged transactions did not take place within six years next preceding the time of the commencement of this action, and that the cause of action is barred by the statute of limitations." TILDEN'S dishonesty in this case is the more strikingly apparent, since Mr. BARTHOLOMEW, also a party to the pool, who had overdrawn in precisely the same way, examined into the matter when it was brought to his attention, and promptly settled with Mr. BOODY. Even this commendable act is taken advantage of by TILDEN, who, in his answer, alleges that inasmuch as Mr. BOODY had released Mr. BARTHOLOMEW, he was thus prevented from suing any of the other members of the pool.

THE Court of Appeals of New York has decided in the case of ROEBLING *vs.* DUNCAN, SHERMAN & Co., that the act of a banker or banking house, in receiving deposits or selling a draft at a time when the banker knows himself to be insolvent, is altogether different from an ordinary act of bankruptcy, and is to be treated and punished as an act of fraud. The court says:

On the 21st day of July, 1875, the plaintiff purchased of the defendants in the ordinary way, at their banking house, a sight draft on the Union Bank, London, which was presented for payment early in August, and payment was refused. On the 27th day of July, the defendants publicly failed, and made a general assignment for the benefit of their creditors. They then owed to creditors in all parts of the world $5,000,000, mostly due, and had less than $2,000,000 of assets and their financial condition must have been substantially the same when they sold the draft. They admit that they had learned of their embarrassed condition prior to the 21st day of July, and that they were then negotiating with European parties for help. They claim that they kept books in their business in which the entries were honest and real. It is incredible then that they did not know substantially their true condition. Although they had ample opportunity to do so they did not know how much, if any, capital they at that time had in their business. They did not explain when, nor how, nor by what disaster they came to be thus largely insolvent; they did not disclose what they had discovered in the examination of their books, nor what their negotiations were, nor what reasons they had to hope that they could go on in their business. They were doing business based on a net indebtedness of $3,000,000 due to a set of duped and confiding creditors scattered through Europe and America. They must have known that they were utterly and hopelessly insolvent; that their condition was such that no change of fortune or friendly aid could relieve them; that their banking house might any day be closed, and that they would soon have either to go into bankruptcy or make an assignment. From the facts disclosed in the affidavits, they had no reason to hope that they could tide over their financial difficulties; yet they kept on their business, holding out to their customers the same delusive appearances of solvency, and inviting the same confidence. After they were in this condition they could not honestly continue their business and receive the money of their customers.

After DUNCAN, SHERMAN & Co. made an assignment, ROEBLING had them arrested and held to answer for fraud, in selling him a draft which they knew would not be honored; and after eighteen months' litigation, the Court of Appeals has finally decided that the arrest was legal and must stand. The court adds;

This is not like the case of an insolvent merchant buying goods for his store. In such a case the buyer and seller are on a footing of equality. The seller can inquire as to the solvency of the buyer, and thus, if honestly informed, judge for himself. But here the plaintiffs would not be expected to inquire of the solvency of the defendants; or to have any dealings directly with the defendants, but in the ordinary course of business they would buy their bill, as they did, like other customers over the counter of a bank, of a clerk, asking no questions as to the solvency of the bankers. Hence in the case of bankers where greater confidence is asked and reposed, and where dishonest dealing, such as is disclosed in this case, may cause wide-spread disasters, a more rigid responsibility for good faith and honest dealing must be enforced. This is not like the case of a trader who has become embarrassed and insolvent, and yet has reasonable hopes that by continuing in business he may retrieve his fortune. In such a case he may buy goods on credit, making no false representations without the necessary imputations of dishonesty.

THE Atlanta (Ga.) *Constitution*, an outspoken Confederate organ, is disgusted with the ravings and rantings of such Northern copperhead sheets as the *Post*. It says:

Whenever and wherever the slogan of war is raised, let the emphatic response of the entire South be, "Get thee behind me, Satan." Our people have already resorted to this sort of "arbitrament," and were so terribly in earnest that they never succombed until nearly every family mourned the loss of a gallant son, brother or father; a debt of two billions of dollars had been repudiated; four millions of slaves emancipated; towns and cities laid waste, and gaunt famine and want stared every one in the face. We state deliberately that the assertion that the South is prepared, by force of arms to seat Mr. Tilden, or engage in another attempt at revolution, is wholly and absolutely false. The very men most opposed to such folly are the battle-scarred heroes of the lost cause. They have felt the shock of battle and realized the miseries of war, and therefore shrink aghast at a renewal of the dreadful spectacle. No. Having taken anew the oath of allegiance and plighted our faith to conserve the public peace, we do not intend to be seduced into rebellion upon any national issue.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The poodle friz is to be retired from service on the brow of beauty.

Recently discovered Assyrian tablets show that the Babylonians used to lend money at ten per cent.

Cremation would be more popular just now if the ashes could be sprinkled liberally on the sidewalks.

A Wisconsin merchant has kept his advertisement standing for twenty years and still finds it profitable.

A walnut tree in the Crimea is a thousand years old, and yields 80,000 nuts a year. It is greatly cracked up by the Russian press.

The average time occupied by 169 grain-laden vessels in sailing from San Francisco to Great Britain during the past season has been 127 days.

The account of his travels, by the Emperor of Brazil, is announced. The book will be printed at Paris in Portuguese, and a French translation will follow at once.

The refusal of the Southern Democrats to go in for the next war makes the Northern peace Democrats who kept out of the last one black in the face with rage.

Since the Government began to issue silver in place of currency, etc., within a few months past, $23,456,756 in coin have been paid out by the United States Treasury.

Underpaid female teachers in the Minneapolis school teachers who, the other day, marshaled a thousand children down the winding stairs of a burning school building, and saved every one.

As if the election excitement was not sufficient, the Florida hotel keepers are lighting over the respective advantages of their caranvansaries. Presently the crocodiles will begin wrangling.

The Philadelphia tax rate has been fixed at $2 25, which is an enormously high one; for real estate in that city, except in rare instances, is assessed at a price which it would not command under forced sale.

The bottomless pit is near Bowling Green, Kentucky. It has an opening in solid rock ten feet long and four feet wide; and vapor ascends the year round, but nobody has yet ascertained how far down it goes.

Of the fifty-one railroad companies doing business in the State of Illinois, only seventeen have this year earned more than their expenses and interest on their bonds, eight of which paid dividends. Fifteen companies report deficits, and nineteen are in the hands of receivers.

An iron stage curtain, it seems, is not an entirely novel idea. At the opening of the New Federal Theater in Boston, in 1798, a dedicatory address, written by Robert Treat Paine, Jr., was read, which contained these lines:

From fire and water your escape is certain;
Your shield of safety is—our iron curtain.

It has lately been discovered that an exhaustless reservoir of pure cold water underlies the whole or a greater part of Manhattan Island, and only at a depth varying from thirty to sixty feet. Some 250 "driven wells," as they are called, recently sunk in various parts of New York city, are yielding copious streams.

Colorado hopes soon to become independent of the East, in the matter of manufactured iron. There has been a foundry for some time at Denver occupied in turning out mining machinery, but now it is to be greatly enlarged, and the making of engines, boilers, iron bridges and agricultural implements added to its products.

The Australian industrial exhibition at Sydney, next spring, ought to be well attended by American exhibitors. Canada is making a great effort to get the Australian trade in manufactures, and will send seven hundred tons of goods to Sydney. Only about one hundred tons of American goods have yet been entered, and the last vessel will sail in a fortnight.

The New York Central line has begun a lightning train to St. Louis, starting from New York at 8:20 A. M. and going through by the Lake Shore and Wabash lines to St. Louis in thirty-six hours, which is eight to twelve hours quicker than it has been done before. The Pennsylvania Central starts a similar train, next Monday morning, and the fast mail is to be put on this.

M. Simonin, a writer in the *Revue des deux Mondes*, drawing his conclusions from two months' attendance at the Philadelphia Exposition, admits that "Americans are continually wresting the methods and skilled processes of our workmen, and in carriages, fine cabinet work, glass and crystal ware and porcelain are on an equality with France and other great nations, and in other manufactures are in advance of us—in steam engines, locomotives, agricultural machines and railroad passenger cars."

PERSONAL.

Professor Harrington, of the Ann Arbor University, Michigan, it is rumored, has received an offer of $4,000 a year to teach in the Imperial Palace in China.

W. J. McDonald, Chief Clerk of the Senate for forty years, says that William L. Marcy and not Andrew Jackson originated the motto, "To the victors belong the spoils."

President George Washington once sent to his cousin, Mrs. Washington, a letter introducing a physician famed for the cure of cancer. This letter has just been sent to Cincinnati to be sold by the descendants of the lady, who are living in Kentucky in poverty.

Six Rhode Island men have the queerest election bet yet. Each of the losing three must eat, within two hours, three plates of soup, made of one hind leg of a dog, one hind leg of a cat, four rats' legs, six chickens' legs, and ten frogs' hind legs. The seasoning and vegetables will be discretionary with the cook, who must be paid twenty-five dollars by the losers.

General Escobedo, the deposed War Minister of Mexico, who was shot by the victorious Diaz, was the officer who defeated and captured Maximilian in 1867, and sentenced him to death. If "Poor Carlotta" has been waiting all these years for vengeance to overtake the butcher Escobedo, she may go in peace now to a world where the wicked cease from troubling and "greasers" are unknown.

An ingenious Connecticut lawyer made a good point in a police court the other day. It was a case of robbery, and there was a ten dollar bill before the court for identification, and neither party in the case would own it. The lawyer took the bill, saying that if it belonged to neither it might as well belong to him, and started for the door, whereupon the owner of it cried out that the bill was his, and thereby lost the case.

The system of female education under which Mount Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley, Mass., has become famous, has been put in successful operation in Cape Colony, South Africa. A seminary based on the Mary Lyon plan and equipped with graduates of Mount Holyoke has been in successful operation in one of the coast towns of this English colony for two or three years, and preparatory schools have been established in neighboring towns under similar management. A second seminary in the interior of the colony at Graaff Reinet has also been built.

How curiously our civil war crops up in all sorts of places and under all sorts of circumstances. In 1861 the daughter of an officer in Ireland married a man named Barrington, and they lived together about a year. He then came to America and entered the Confederate service, and she heard nothing more of him until, after advertising, satisfactory evidence was obtained that he was killed during the war. In 1871 she married the head of one of the most respectable families in Scotland, and has had several children. Recently, however, Barrington made his appearance and claimed his wife. One can imagine the distress that was occasioned, but, by some happy accident, it was discovered that when Barrington married the lady in 1861 he had another wife living, who is still alive, and as the English Divorce Court has just pronounced the 1861 marriage null and void, and the lady remains with her Scotch husband.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ANIMALS. With a Study of the Relations of Living and Extinct Faunas, as Elucidating the Past Changes of the Earth's Surface. By Alfred Russell Wallace, author of the "Malay Archipelago," &c. In two vols., with Maps and Illustrations. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

Much has been expected of the author of this great work, chiefly because of his prominence in this department of scientific research. Crude views existed in regard to the great problem of the geographical distribution of animals, and Mr. Wallace is the first to give distinct form and system to the question. Indeed, it is questioned if the work under consideration could have been done as well by any living man as by him. Well recognized authorities represent him as having been a studious observer from his youth, of a philosophical cast of mind, profound and original thinker, and the author of theories, which place him in the front rank of scientists. Years of careful exploration and being thoroughly versed as a naturalist render his views practical and not mere theories.

The work is a summerization of the existing information on the distribution of land animals, and explanation of the laws of physical and organic change. We quote his own words: "My object has been to show the important bearing of researches into the natural history of every part of the world upon the study of its past history. An accurate knowledge of any group of birds or of insects and of their geographical distribution may enable us to map out the lakes and coutinents of a former epoch, the amount of difference that exists between the animals of adjacent districts being closely related to preceding geographical changes. By the collection of such minute facts alone can we hope to fill up a great gap in the past history of the earth as revealed by geology, and obtain some indications of the existence of those ancient lands which now lie buried beneath the ocean and have left us nothing but these living records of their former existence."

So much valuable information is embodied in this work, and covering a field of thought never so successfully trodden before, that we can only glance at the several parts. The work opens with a concise statement of the object of the work, and some points are elucidated of the minor problems involved. The second part is devoted to a discussion of fossil animals. Referring to the work of tracing back, he says: "Taking existing species as our guides we should certainly have imagined that the genus *Equus* originated in Africa or Central Asia; but recent discoveries of numerous extinct species seem to indicate that it originated in North America, and that the whole tribe of 'horses' may be, for anything we yet know, recent immigrants into the Old World!"

Part third treats of zoological geography in which the chief forms of life in the several regions and sub-regions, with the indications they afford of geographical mutations, are considered. Here Mr. Wallace develops his genius and fitness for the work, and the vast labor attending the duties. Part fourth treats of geographical zoology, a systematic sketch of the chief families of land animals in their geographical relations. Want of space prevents enlargement here. This last part is more than the rest of a reference character, and there are grouped together facts of intense interest. The author well says the book will serve for a dictionary of the geographical affinites of animals. Among the interesting features is the copious index, numbering about fifty pages. Minutely and exhaustingly as it would appear the subject has been treated, the hint is given that another volume may follow. The typographical execution of the book is of a superior character, and the numerous maps and illustrations increase its value. The publishers by its publication have added fresh laurels and demonstrated their progressiveness in the art of book making.

FLAXIE FRIZZLE. By Sophie May, author of "Dotty Dimple Stories," etc. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. For sale by S. A Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

This is a delightful little story, and just like all stories of this author. "Flaxie Frizzle" is the nick-name of a little girl, who narrates little incidents that will please and instruct young readers.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE REVOLUTION. By Charles H. Woodman. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

This delightful book, like Mr. Coffin's "Boy of '76," is calculated to instruct as well as entertain and amuse the reader. It is, however, more a series of vivid sketches of boys and girls who took part in these times, rather than a history of events. In these pen pictures historical facts and dates are carefully noted. Among the fourteen sketches we are told of the death of Cris. Snyder, of the part the boys played in the Boston massacre, of young Caleb Stark's entrance into military life, of Alexander Hamilton's famous speech in the fields, in 1774, and of the man who killed Hamilton. It ought and will be a favorite with young people, and it is oppertune and seasonable.

JOHNNYKIN AND THE GOBLINS. By Charles G. Leland. Illustrated by the author. Published by MacMillan & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh. $1 50.

Young people will find this fairy tale of "Johnnykin and the Goblins" very amusing and profusely filled with grotesque pictures. Both text and illustrations are most admirably conceived, and partake of the charming features of that wonderful book, "Alice's Adventures." Among the numerous gift books for young people, we advise the selection of "Johnnykin and the Goblins" as one of the number. It is published in fine style, as is usual of books bearing the imprint of this house.

SUNSHINE IN THE SHADY PLACE. By Edith Milner, author of "Fitful Gleams from Fancy Land," etc. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

A story of English domestic life, in which are depicted with considerable skill phases of society, well spiced with incidents and episodes. The design of the romance is excellent and the tone of a moral character. Its purity of sentiment and chaste language render it an acceptable book for the family circle, and it deserves a wide reading.

S. M. Pettengill & Co.,
Advertising Agents,
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Desire to Call the Attention of Business Men, who wish to reach the Reading Public, to the following
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18 DIAMOND,
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James Keller & Sons, Dundee Marmalade	25c per jar
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(Champignons) French Mushrooms,	25c per can
3 cans for	$1 00
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French Mackerel in Cans	25c per can
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Brandy Peaches	35c. 3 bottles for $1
Brandy Cherries	35c. 3 bottles for $1
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New Edam Cheese	$1 25
New Sinclair Cheese	16c per lb
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Canned Cooked and Spiced Beef	45c per can
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New Spiced Pickled Apples	18c per can
New Pitted Cherries	30c
New Sicilian Sardine Boxes	65c and 90c per box
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Le fleur de Levin de Parasello, or French Baking Powder—is more especially adapted for making very delicate Biscuits, Cakes, Bread, &c., than any other yet presented to the public. It is used in the best families and leading hotels in Europe. One trial will convince the superiority over all others; it is sold three and in 5 pound cans, 45 cents per pound.
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Containing perfectly Pure Lump Soluable Blue, made without acid. The most economical, cleanly and complete article ever used by housekeepers. Try it and you will use no other. One 5-cent box will go as far as 25 cents worth of any other Blueing.
I am sole agent in Pittsburgh and Allegheny for this Blue,
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2½ lbs Young Hyson Tea	$1 00
2½ lbs Japan Tea	1 00
2½ lbs Gunpowder Tea	1 00
2½ lbs Imperial Tea	1 00
2½ lbs English Breakfast Tea	1 00
2½ lbs Mixed Tea	1 00
2½ lbs Oolong Tea	1 00
15 lbs Water Crackers	$1 00
15½ lbs Butter Crackers	1 00
15½ lbs Soda Crackers	1 00
5 lbs Rolled Oats	1 00
5 lbs Roasted Coffee	1 00
21 lbs Glose Starch	1 00
20½ lbs Barley	1 00
12 lbs Papers Corn Starch	1 00
9½ lbs White Sugar	1 0

Old Country Tea House.
WM. HASLAGE,
18 DIAMOND,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
C. YEAGER & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS,
Offer to Wholesale Dealers a large and complete stock of
FANCY GOODS
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TOYS!
AT THE
Lowest Prices!
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Send for circular

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To all His Frie
With many thanks to our ingly liberal patronage besto take great and particular plea TIES, comprising a Large and
BEAUTI
Our Department of DRESS GOODS REP very LATEST and NEWEST effects both i Hair Suitings, Plain, Striped and Snow Fla of BLACK and COLORED CASHMERES, always been—LEADING.
With new arrivals of NEW CLOAKS, SA each garment is marked, has made our Clo Suits in all the latest styles and colors and dren's FURS, in all the various kinds, incl Fashionable Shawls, Ladies and Misses' Sk
Special attractions are now being offered Underwear, Unlaundried and Fine Dress S Silk Mufflers, Linen and Silk Handkerchiefs.
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That the wishes and desires of our patron menced, we have increased our help, by co ers in their purchases.
1876. 1877.
Holiday Goods!
AT
James Caldwell & Co.'s,
No. 115 and 117
FEDERAL ST.,
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Attractive Display
AND
Lowest Prices!
NEW
Dress Goods,
Dress Silks,
Muffs and Boas,
Seal Sacques,
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Shawls, Skirts, &c.,
Housekeeping Goods.
Will Open on
Monday, Dec. 18th,
NEW SELECTIONS OF
Handkerchiefs,
Ladies' Neck Wear,
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And Many Other Articles Suitable
FOR
CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S
Presents!
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IMPERIAL HOTEL,
The Only First-class Three-Dollar-per-Day Hotel in Washington.
In order to meet the wants of the Traveling Public, this First-class Hotel has reduced its price from Four to Three Dollars per day. The above Hotel is pleasantly located near Fourteenth street, fronting on Pennsylvania avenue, is convenient to the Treasury, Army, Navy, State, Postoffice and Interior Departments.
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COR. BROAD & CHESTNUT STS., PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Best location in the city; greatly enlarged and improved; fifty rooms "en suite;" bath; hot and cold water; passenger elevator, and all modern improvements; fitted up in elegant style. First class table at moderate rates.
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FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL,
(FORMERLY HARE'S HOTEL,)
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TERMS $2 PER DAY.
HUGH KEYS, Proprietor.
DISSOLUTION.
THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE EXISTING under the firm of BECKERT & GERWIG is this day dissolved by limitation, C. W. GERWIG retiring. The business will be continued by C. BECKERT, who will pay all debts and collect all accounts.
November 25, 1876.
WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY,
10,000 *Words and Meanings not in other Dictionaries.*
3,000 Engravings; 1,540 Pages Quarto.
Price $12
FOUR PAGES COLORED PLATES.
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The sales of Webster's Dictionaries in the United States exceed 20,000 copies per year, as large as the sales of any other Dictionaries.
One family of children having Webster's UNABRIDGED, and using it freely, and not another to nothing it, the first will become much the most intelligent of the two. Ask for Webster. Be sure your teacher or minister has it and see that he has it.
Published by
G. & C. MERRIAM, Springfield, Mass.
Estate of Frank A. Hug, Deceased.
Letters of administration on the estate of Frank A. Hug, late of Fourth-first street, Seventeenth ward, Pittsburgh, Allegheny county, deceased, have been granted to Lewis M. Plumer, residing in the city. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay.
LEWIS M. PLUMER, Administrator,
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FOR SALE OR RENT.
First Class Steam Distillery,
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Capacity 80 bushels per day. Railroad Siding to door. Located at BUTLER, Pa. Will be sold on very easy terms; or, if not sold, will be lease d. Address
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numerous friends and patrons ing the same for the future, we wed upon us during the past and daily arriving NOVEL-
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LENISHED this day with the RICHEST and HIGHEST NOVELTIES of EUROPEAN and AMERICAN manufacture, includes all the n materials and colorings, in such as Satteen, Diagonal, Cashmeres and All Wool Striped Hr ke Ladies' Cloths and Waterproofs, Striped Ca shmere Suitings, Tycoon Repps for Wrappers. MERINOS, BLACK, COLORED and FANCY DRESS SILKS, together with all the above go ocades, Plain, Striped and Barred Camels'-Col

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 15, 1876.

The week draws to a close with an increasing supply of loanable funds seeking investment. Commercial paper is offering in rather light volume at present, which, as bankers hope, will increase after the opening of the year. It is questionable, however, whether the increase in the surplus funds from dividend and interest disbursements will not be as prominent a factor in the money market as the increased demand for money at the opening of the year. Until that question is decided by the event, bankers are tolerably contented to carry large reserves, and consequently, the rates for money are steadier than might otherwise be expected, ruling at 7@9 per cent. on prime commercial paper at the banks, and 6@7 on first-class collaterals. Other financial interests present no features of importance. Real estate continues flat and lifeless, except that good first mortgages at low valuations would be readily taken by capitalists. Eastern exchange rules comparatively steady a par. Local stocks and securities are quiet and devoid of especial news.

—The compilation of clearing house returns for last week, by yesterday's *Public* shows that New York and Pittsburgh are the only cities reporting in which the clearing house transactions last week did not exceed those of the corresponding week in 1875. In New York the decline is only 6 per centum, and in Pittsburgh only 7.5 per centum, so that, notwithstanding the decline in stock speculations in the former city, the business of both cities appear to be nearly as large in values, and, prices considered, somewhat is ger in quantities, than it was at this time last year. In all the other cities there is a positive increase, ranging from 0.7 per centum at St. Louis to 0 8 per centum at Chicago. The report compares thus:

WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9.	1876.	1875.	Change Per Cent.
New York....	$ 397,314,549	$ 423,149,848	—6.0
Boston.....	73,768,645	68,202,701	+8.1
Philadelphia.	41,105,046	41,677,331	—1.3
Chicago	28,929,459	24,940 081	+8.8
St. Louis.....	24,993,702	24,846,430	+0.7
New Orleans..	13,453,178	14,511,843	—9.8
Pittsburgh...	4,280,305	4,607,295	—7.5
Total.....	$ 581,302,878 $	599,930,172	—3.1

In the aggregate the decline is only 3.1 per centum, and, if reasonable allowance be made for the decrease of stock transactions in New York, the aggregate of other business of the seven cities named is larger in values and more than ten per centum larger in quantities than it was during the same week last year. The operations of a single week are not a decisive indication of the current of business, but, as far as they go, the returns here given are exceedingly encouraging, be more so as they effectually refute the cry of croakers that business has gone altogether to the dogs.

—The New York *Bulletin* publishes a statement showing the amount of gold receipts at New York from Europe between September 20 and December 11, and the firms to which it was consigned. In addition to the $14,300,000 already received, there is new afloat for New York $1 553,000. There have apparently been some unusual operations contributing to this very large importation. The statement is as follow :

Bank of British North America.....	$ 2,357,253
Bank of Montreal.....	1,999,200
L. Von Hoffman & Co.....	4,818,784
Block & Co.....	2,326,269
A. Belmont & Co.....	1,079,075
J. & W. Seligman & Co.....	429,214
Drexel, Morgan & Co.....	691,596
Speyers & Co.....	121,993
Miscellaneous amounts.....	164,249
Total.....	$14,332,682

—The New York *Times* says of the movement of the banks to reduce taxation : At a special meeting of the Clearing House Association to-day the Committee on Taxation which was appointed last winter was revived. The banks complain of excessive taxation; and the committee was instructed to take such measures as both in Washington and Albany, as will lead to a reduction. The banks ask (1) the repeal of the tax on deposits; (2) the repeal of the tax on capital; (3) that banks shall be taxed on the basis of personal property, and (4) that a uniform system of taxation of bank shares be adopted throughout the State.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 15, 1876.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30
	M.	M.	M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	107⅛	107⅛	107⅛	107⅛	107⅛	107⅛
U. S., 6s, 1881, coup.	116½	116½	....	....	116½	....
5-20's, 1865.....	106½	106½	....	....	106½	....
5-20's, 1865, new.....	112¼	112⅝	....	....	112⅝	....
5-20's, 1867, coupon.	113	113⅛	....	....	113⅛	....
5-20's, 1867, registered	113½	113½	....	....	113½	....
5-20's, 1868, registered	117	117¼	....	....	117¼	....
5-20's, 1868.....	117	117¼	....	....	117¼	....
10-40's	107½	107¾	....	....	107¾	....
10-40's, coupon	112⅝	112⅝	....	....	112⅝	....
Currency 6's.....	124½	124½	....	....	124½	....
New 5's per cents.....	104⅜	104⅜	....	....	104⅜	....
Western Union Tel..	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Quicksilver.....	12	12	....	....	12	....
Pacific Mail.....	25¼	25¼	25¼	25¼	25¼	25¼
Panama.....	130	....	....	....	130	....
Adams Express.....	102¼	....	....	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Ex.....	89	....	....	....	....	....
American Ex.....	54½	....	....	....	54½	....
United States Ex..	53¼	....	....	....	53¼	....
Mariposa.....	8½	....	....	....	8½	....
Do. preferred.....	18½	....	....	....	18½	....
New York Central	104½	....	....	....	104½	....
Erie	9¾	9¾	9¾	9¾	9¾	9¾
Do. preferred....	16	....	....	....	16	....
Harlem.....	140	....	....	....	140	....
Hudson River....	120	....	....	....	120	....
Michigan Central.	43⅞	43⅞	43¾	43¾	44	43⅞
Michigan Southern	58¾	58¾	58	58	58	....
Illinois Central..	67⅞	....	67	66¾	67	67
Cleve. and Pittsb.	90	....	....	....	90	....
Cleve., and Pittsburgh	....	....	....	....	....	35⅝
Chicago & Northwest.	56¾	56¾	56¾	56¾	56¾	56¾
Do. preferred....	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾
Rock Island.....	99	....	....	....	99	....
St. Paul common....	29	29¼	....	....	29¼	....
Do. preferred....	52⅝	52⅝	52⅝	52⅝	53⅛	52⅝
Wabash comm n....	5	....	....	....	5	....
8 to 1 Wabash....	9½	....	....	....	10½	....
Ohio and Mississippi.	5⅞	....	....	5¾	5¾	....
Union Pacific.....	....	....	....	....	67	66¾
Hartford.....	140	....	141	141	....	....
New Jersey Central.	....	....	....	30½	....	....
Hannibal & St. Joe.	12⅜	....	....	....	12⅜	....
Iron Mountain.....	12⅞	....	....	....	13	....
St. C. & I. C.....	23	....	....	....	23	....
Missouri Pacific....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ind., Lack. & West.	7½	....	....	....	7¾	7¾
South Carolina, pref.	33	....	....	....	33	....
South Carolina, 2d..	10	....	....	....	10	....
Mi souri 6's.....	107¼	....	....	....	....	....

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central.	67¾	67¾	....
Reading.....	20⅝	20⅝	....
United Cos. of N. J....	....	....	193½
Lehigh Valley.....	....	....	48¾
Lehigh Nav. 7-30's	104	....	....
Central Transportation	....	40	....
Empire Transportation	....	50	....
P., C. & St. L. m. b....	....	....	83

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 107⅝.
MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 15.—Money closed easy at 4@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5@7 per cent. Customs receipts $104,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $342,000. Clearings $19,000,000. Sterling quiet at 482@484.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 107¾, with sales in the interim at 107¾. Carrying rates 2½@5 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds strong and advancing. There is an increased demand for home consumption and weak holders' operations are looking around with a view to purchasing round amounts for investment. Railroad bonds firm and higher; Milwaukee and St. Paul consolidated sinking funds rose to 88½, Chicago and Northwestern consolidated gold coupons to 91⅜ and North Missouri firsts to 98½. In State bonds Louisiana consols fell off to 54½. The stock market was devoid of important features and can be simply described as strong, many of the shares being matters in sympathy with New York Central and Lake Shore, which for the moment have become leaders. The directors of the Rock Island Railroad declared a quarterly dividend of 2 per cent., payable February 1st. Mr. Jewett, receiver of the Erie Railway, applied to the Supreme Court for permission to pay two years back interest on first mortgage bonds of the company and the court authorized him to pay the same. The *Express* says that General Anson Stager, as Vice President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, is welcome to the city and welcome to the press. Transactions 104,000 shares, of which 5,000 were Pacific Mail, 4,000 Western Union, 5,000 Rock Island, 6,000 St. Paul, 8,000 Erie, 50,000 Lake Shore, 2,600 New York Central, 5,800 Michigan Central, 7,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and 4,000 New Jersey Central. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.		STOCKS.	
West. Union Tel..	73¾	Rock Island.....	99⅛
Quicksilver.....	12	St. Paul.....	29⅛
Do. preferred....	18	Do. preferred....	52⅞
Pacific Mail.....	25¼	Wabash.....	5⅛
Adams Express....	102½	Do. preferred....	5
Wells-Fargo Ex...	89	Ft. Wayne.....	101¾
American Ex.....	54½	Terre Haute.....	5
United States Ex..	53¼	Do. preferred....	15
Mariposa.....	8½	Chicago & Alton..	90
Do. preferred....	18½	Do. preferred....	108
New York Central	104½	Ohio & Mississippi.	5⅝
Erie	9¾	Del. & Lack.....	73
Do. preferred....	16	Atlantic & P. Tel..	14½
Harlem.....	140	Missouri Pacific..	3
Hudson River....	120	Atlantic & P. pref.	8
Michigan Central.	43⅞	Indiana Central...	2½
Panama	130	Bur. & Quincy....	113
Lake Shore.....	58¾	Hannibal & St. Jo.	12⅝
Illinois Central..	67	Union Pac. stock..	59¾
Cleve. and Pitts..	90	Union Pac. bonds..	89¾
Northwestern....	35⅝	Central Pac. bonds.	105¾
Do. preferred....	68¾	Del. & Hudson....	103
C., C. & I.....	23	Do. land grants..	103
N. J. Central.....	33½	Do. S. F. bonds..	94¾

*Ex-dividend.

GOVERNMENTS.	
U. S. coupons, 1881	116½
5-20's, 1865.....	107
5-20's, 1865, new....	109¾
5-20's, 1867.....	113⅝
5-20's, 1868.....	117¼

STATE BONDS.	
Tennessee, old....	41
Tennessee, new....	39
Virginia, new.....	39

PARIS, December 15, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank England an balance to-day is £23,000, all for shipment to America. Cousols 93 15-16. United States bonds 5-20's, 1865, 104½; do. 1867, 107¾; 10-40's 107½; new 5's, 105. Railroad securities—New York Central 99; Erie 9¾; preferred 17.

PARIS, December 15.—Rentes 104 francs 50 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 15.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, December 15.—Gold 108¼@108¾. Sight exchange on New York ¼ per cent. discount. Sterling exchange 517.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 15, 1876.

A quiet state of affairs prevailed in trade circles to-day, although the feeling was a little louder than yesterday in some respects. On the whole, a light aggregate business was transacted and prices were almost wholly unchanged. The cold weather has caused a slight change in the tendency of some staples of the produce trade. Game and poultry were somewhat firmer to-day and the upward tendency of potatoes was increased by the improbability of larger receipts. Otherwise there was no particular change in the state of the market. It is likely that trade affairs will remain in *statu quo* for the rest of the month and until the next season's trade opens, except as the holiday trade may inspire certain lines with considerable activity. With that exception business will be likely to drag along as at present on the hand-to-mouth policy until the current year's business is settled up and the new season's trade is entered upon.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows :

Flour, bbls.....	1,463	Apples, bbls.....	28
Corn, bus.....	1,462	Cheese, lbs	97
Wheat, bus.....	1,400	Butter, lbs.....	85
Oats, bus.....	1,600	Bacon, pc.....	1,450
Hay, bales.....	200		

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The market is rather quiet, trade being restricted by light offerings. Wheat is firm with an upward tendency. We note sales of 4 cars prime red winter at $1 46. We quote prime Ohio and Pennsylvania red at $1 46@1 48 per bushel; amber do at $1 45; white $1 45@1 48. Corn is active and firm. We quote old shelled at 55@57c per bushel for prime yellow and high mixed; new car is in demand at 50@52c; prime new shelled 48@50c. Oats are held firmly and in moderate demand. We quote prime white at 40@41c per bushel; mixed 36@38c. Rye is in moderate supply and easy at 70@75c. Barley is quiet and continues easy. We quote 75@80c for good to prime spring; prime fall $1 10@1 20. Jobbing sales are made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—The market continues to show a strong upward tendency in sympathy with the rise in wheat. Local millers quote their wholesale rates as follows: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 75 ₱ barrel; No. 1 amber do $7 0@7 25; primered wheat flour $6 50@6 75; in sacks 25c ₱ barrel. Prices at which the leading dealers for standard brands of flour are as follows: Choice brands of red winter wheat $6 75@7 00; white wheat $7 50@7 75; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 25@6 50; Minnesota $6 75 @7 00; Dakota St. Louis $5 50@9 00; choice patents $8 50@9 00; Graham flour $6 50@8 75; cornmeal $3 ₱ bushel; $2 ₱ barrel; kegs 75c; rye flour $4 25@4 50 ₱ barrel.

HAY—There is little doing and the market is quiet and steady. We quote loose from wagon at $12 00@16 00 ₱ ton. Baled from first hands $14 00@14 00 as to quality and condition. From store the usual advance is obtained.

MILL FEED—Remains quiet. The rates current are from $12 00@13 00 ₱ ton for middlings; $20 00@22 00 seconds and ship-stuff $15 00@17 00; chopped feed $20 00@22 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—The demand is fair and a moderate trade is done, but the abundant supplies prevent any tendency to advance and prices are unchanged at the old rates. We quote prices in a jobbing way as follows: $1 50 per barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—Is dull and nominal at 30@35c ₱ gallon.

BEESWAX—Is in fair demand at 30@35c ₱ ℔.

BEANS—There is a fair demand and prices are steady, though the upward tendency is not so prominent a feature as it was last week. We quote choice hand-picked mediums at $1 75@2 00 per bushel; some stock held at $2 25.

BROOM-CORN—There is a fair demand for small lots, but sales of car lots can hardly be made except at a sacrifice. Prices are unchanged. We quote choice hurl at 6@6¼c, as to quality; brush that will work up 5@5½c; medium green 4@4½c; red-tipped 3½@4c; inferior not wanted at any price; crooked in hair demanded at about one-half to two-thirds prices given, according to quality.

BUTTER—There is a fair demand for prime to choice qualities and trade is firm and active on these grades, while common and medium are quiet and weak. Creamery is selling at 28@30c. We quote prime to choice solid packed table, 26@28c; do roll 24@26c; choice packing 22@24c per ℔.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Is moderately active and steady. We quote at $3 75@4 00 per cwt. for prime quality.

CHEESE—There is a quiet but unchanged market with no prospect of any material change before January. We quote prime Ohio factory at 14@15c. New York Goshen 15c in round lots; 15½@16c in a jobbing way.

CRANBERRIES—The supply is ample and the market is easy. Prices range at $8 00@10 00 ₱ barrel; $2 25@3 50 ₱ bushel.

CIDER—The demand is fair and supply liberal. Prices range from $2 50@3 50, barrel included, for common; $4 00@5 00 for extra choice.

DRIED FRUIT—The market is dull and nominal in sympathy with the green fruit. Apples, ordinary, 4½@5c ₱ lb for prime, and 5½@6c for fancy; dried peaches 9@11c; evaporated peaches 5½@8c.

DRIED PEAS—There is a good demand for new stock at $1 70@1 80 per bushel.

EGGS—The market is about steady at unchanged prices. Strictly fresh are scarce at 27@28c ₱ dozen; pickled are in large supply and quoted at 20@22c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 60@65c in wholesale lots; lower qualities 50@60c.

GAME—The cold weather has a bracing influence on the demand and the market is about nominally unchanged there is a firmer feeling than yesterday. The supply continues in excess of the demand and the quotations are as follows: Venison—saddles 16@18c ₱ ℔; do hams 14@16c; do shoulders 10@12c ₱ ℔. Quails $1 50@1 75 per dozen. Pheasants $3 00@3 50 per dozen. Prairie fowl $4 00@4 50 per dozen. Rabbits 25@30c per pair.

HONEY—We can report a fair trade demand for new California at 22@25c ₱ ℔; domestic 20c.

NUTS—Are in good supply and the market is easy. We quote new shellbarks $3 00@3 25 ₱ bushel; white do ₱ bushel; hickory nuts $1 50@1 75 ₱ bushel; shellbarks $1 50@1 75.

ONIONS—Are in moderate supply at 60@62 25 ₱ barrel.

POULTRY—Are also firmer and rule comparatively scarce and in demand. We quote live chickens by the coop at 40@45c ₱ pair; dressed do 50@60c ₱ pair; spring chickens 12@13c ₱ ℔. Ducks 45@50c ₱ pair; dressed 11@13c ₱ ℔. Geese 9@10c ₱ ℔.

PROVISIONS—The market is quite firm and the market is strong with prices firm at the figures reported yesterday. We quote from store at $1 10@1 15 ₱ for prime peachblows; lower grades 90c@$1 05; prime peachblows $1 00@1 05 ₱ bbl. sweet potatoes are out of the market.

VINEGAR—There is a moderate demand at 16@18c ₱ gallon for prime country stock; 14@16c for best city make.

Provisions.

Trade continues active and values are steady and unchanged. Receipts are increasing with the appearance of the new make of hog products, and an increase of activity is expected within the next thirty days.

BACON—The market is steady. Jobbing quotations are as follows: Sides 8c ₱ pound; short rib sides 10½c; clear sides 10½c.

CURED MEATS—Hams—Hams were easy at 13½c ₱ lb for extra sugar-cured. Breakfast bacon rules easy and we quote sugar-cured at 14½c. Sugar-cured shoulders were steady at 9½c. Dried beef, sugar-cured, was firm at 14½c. Beef tongues, ₱ dozen, are quoted at $7 50.

LARD—Demand fair and market steady. We quote refined in tierces 11@11½c; in tubs ½c in half barrels 12½c ₱ lb; in buckets 12½c ₱ lb; in 3-lb caddies 14½c ₱ lb; in 5-lb caddies 14 ₱ lb; in 3-lb pails 14½c ₱ lb; in 5-lb pails 14c ₱ lb; in 6-lb pails 13½c ₱ lb. Leaf lard rules at 11c in tierces.

LARD OIL—The market is quiet. We quote best winter, of extra at 56c per gallon; current makes of extra at 57c: No. 1 at 73c ₱ gallon; No. 2 at 60c; summer oil, white winter, 38@40c; yellow winter, 33@35c.

MESS PORK—Is firm and higher at $18 00 per barrel.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' city rendered, at 9@9½c ₱ lb; country do 7½@8c ₱ lb; rough 5½@6c ₱ lb.

Groceries.

The market was moderately active and generally unchanged. Sugars continued to show some weakness though not quotably lower. Coffees are steady and moderately active. Other staples are steady and unchanged at the following prices current:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio.....	24 c	Standard A.....	11½@11⅝c
Choice Rio.....	23 c	Standard B.....	11¼@11½c
Prime Rio.....	22 c	Extra White....	10¾@11c
Good Rio.....	20 c	Extra C—yel.	9¾@10 c
Ordinary Rio....	19 c	Golden Yellow.	9½@9¾c
Java.....	30 c	Franklin, B.	10½@10¾c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	9½@ 9¾c
In 10 lb papers..	26 c	Cut Loaf.....	13 c
24 grades do. 24	@26 c	Crushed.....	12½c
100, in bulk 22	@23c	Powdered.....	12½c
Java, in papers..	31 c	Granulated.....	12½c
Java, in bulk.....	30½c	*Molasses.*	₱ gal.
Teas.		Ch. N. O....	65c
Young Hyson.	25@$1 00	Prime.....	57@60c
Gunpowder...	35@ 90	*Syrups.*	
Imperial.....	35@ 90	Ex. white cane.	61@65c
Japan	25@ 85	Sugar drips.....	55c
Oolong.....	25@ 65	Lower grades....	45@50c
Fancy do.....	1 00	*Starch.*	
Souchong.....	28@ 75	Pearl.....	7¾@ 8 c
Spices (whole.)		Silver gloss....	9½c
Cloves.....	45 c	Corn.....	7½@10½c
Allspice.....	20 c	*Rice.*	
Cassia.....	@31 c	Choice Carlin..	8¼@7 c
Nutmegs.....	@1 15	Patna.....	7 @7½c
Pepper.....	18 c	Imported.....	6½@7c
Soaps.		Louisiana.....	6 c
Irish soap, ₱ box..	$4 20	*Sodas.*	
S. S. Star, ₱ box..	5 25	Bi-carb, in kegs	4½@5 c
Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 75	Bi-carb, in 1-lb p	5@5 c
Good do.....	4 50	Bi-carb, in 5 papers	6½c
Extra silver do..	5 50	*Crackers.*	
Do. N. Y. city, ₱ box	5 0	Star, full wt's.....	16 c
German toilet do..	3 50	Pilot, full wt's....	12 c
California, ₱ box..	4 50	Mould.....	10@10½c

FISH—The market is moderately active with a fair demand and unchanged prices. Quotations are as follows:

	Per bbl.		Per bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess mackerel.....	$7 00	Round herring...	$5 50
Extra No. 1 shore	7 50	Split Labrador do	7 50
Extra No. 1 bay	7 00	Lake Pick., half-bbls	3 50
Extra No. 2 large	6 00	Lake Herring, do.	2 25
No. 2 mackerel..	5 50	Lake Georges cod-	
No. 2 medium....	5 00	fish, 3.....	6
Large No. 3.....	4 50	Medium Georges.	5¼
No. 3 medium....	4 00	Pollock, ₱ ℔.....	3½
Whitefish, half-bbls	5 00	No. 1 Herring, ₱ bx	15
Lake Trout, do ..	4 50	Scaled herring do	40

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a moderate trade. We quote as follows: Raisins—Layers, new, per box, $2 25; London layers, new, $3 25; Muscatels, new, 10½c ₱ ℔; imitations 7½c. Dates 6@6½c ₱ ℔. Currants 7½c. Citron 30c. Prunes 6½@7c. Almonds—Languedoc 23c; do shelled 38c; do Princess 32c; do Jordan, do 37c. Figs 22c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot 15c; Sicily filberts, 16c. Smyrna figs, new, 18c. Brazil nuts 16c. Macaroni 11@12c. Tapioca 10c. Lemons—Palermo, ₱ box, $5 00. Oranges—Florida $3 50 ₱ hundred. Cocoanuts $7 50 ₱ hundred.

CANNED GOODS—Trade is fair at unchanged quotations. We quote green peas, 2 ₱ cans per doz., $2 25; raspberries do $2 00; strawberries do $1 75; gooseberries do $1 30; pineapples do, $2 20; blackberries do, $1 50; peaches, 2 ₱ cans per doz., $2 00; tomatoes do, $2 00; pickles, bbls, $5 50; half-bbls, $3 00.

Petroleum.

December 15.—The market yesterday was less active and dealers were apart in their views. The decline in Europe is beginning to produce an unfavorable effect here, as the demand for home trade is limited it will tend to hold up prices, at least for the present. We quote to the home trade 28c in round lots of 500 and 1 000 barrels 27c. The Eastern markets continue to exhibit considerable firmness under the circumstances. At New York refined sold at 32c for this month; 30c for January; 27½c for February; cases 35@37c. At Philadelphia it is quoted at 30c for December; 27½c for January, and 27c for February; and at Baltimore 30c for December; 29½c for January, and 27c for February.

PARKERS, December 15, 5:50 P. M.—The crude oil market has ruled weak throughout the day, and the feeling has given way to a panic. Sundut and United opened at $3 88@3 90, and with slight transactions gradually declined during the morning, and later in the day still further to $3 75, the present quotations. Shipments sold about 50 per certificate and Union Pipe Line United and Continental from the lower district Thursday 38,369 barrels.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]
NEW YORK, December 15, closing 14.—There extreme rates asked, but no urgency to sell. 134c. The quotations for New York de-

2,800 head. Shipments 1,800 head. Market nearly nominal and prices unchanged.

Hogs—Receipts 29,000 head. Shipments 1,700 head. Market quiet but steady, closing with the pens full; light $5 40@5 55; packing $5 60@6 00; shipping, mixed and heavy extra $6 00@6 10. Dressed hogs irregular but active; good heavy $6 75@6 80; light $6 60@6 70.

Sheep—Receipts 1,100 head. Market dull and unchanged.

ALBANY, December 15.—Cattle—Receipts 1,450 cars, 20 cars left over last week. Premium stock, extra fine, $5 00@5 37½.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts 307 cars. Common to fair sheep $5 50@4 00; fair to good $4 00@5 00; good to extra $5 00@6 00; Christmas $6 50@6 75; lambs, common to fair, $5 00@5 50; fair to good $5 50@6 00; good to extra $6 00@5 50; Christmas $7 00.

CINCINNATI, December 15.—Hogs higher; common at $5 75; fair to good light $5 60@5 85; packing $5 80@6 00; heavy $6 10.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 15.—Hogs quiet at $5 50@5 65. Receipts 4,000 head.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Produce.

CHICAGO, December 15.—Flour in good demand. Wheat active and a shade higher; No. 2 Chicago $1 18¼ cash ; $1 19 January; $1 33½ February; No. 3 $1 07¼@1 08; rejected 92@95c. Corn unchanged but some sales rather higher; 46¾c cash; 45¾c January; 45c February. Oats dull and nominal; 33¾c cash. Rye firm and unchanged. Barley easier; 60@66c cash. Pork active but not quotably higher; $16 50 cash; $15 60 January; $16 85 February; $17 10 March. Lard steady; 10¼c cash; 10¼c January; 10⅝@10¾c March. Bulk meats quiet and unchanged. Whisky active and prices a shade higher with a good demand at $1 08.

Later—At the close this afternoon wheat was about ½c lower. Corn ½c lower. Oats nominal. Pork strong and higher; $16 65@16 70 January; $17 05@17 10 February. Lard firm and higher; 10.27½c January; 10 40c February.

NEW YORK, December 15.—Flour dull and heavy, mainly in favor of buyers; receipts 21,000 barrels; superfine Western and State $5 00@5 25; common to good $5 45@6 65; good to choice $5 70@5 75; white wheat extra $5 20@7 00; St. Louis $5 50@8 25; extra Ohio $5 35@7 00. Rye flour dull and nominal. Cornmeal dull; Western $2 80@3 10. Wheat dull; receipts 80,000 bushels; No. 2 Milwaukee $1 32; No. 2 Chicago spring nominally $1 30; ungraded spring $1 25@1 26. Rye quiet; Western 80@85c. Barley dull. Malt steady. Corn quiet; receipts 5,000 bushels; 56@56½c for sound mixed on steamer, new, 55c; do for afloat; receipts 10,000 bushels; Western mix'd and State 54@56c. Hay and hops unchanged. Coffee quiet; Rio cargoes 16@20c. Sugar firm; fair to good refining 9⅝@9¾c; prime 10 1-16c; refined heavy; New Orleans 9@9¾c. Rice in moderate demand. Rosin firm. Turpentine firmer at 42 c. Eggs—Weak at 28@29c. Pork quiet and unchanged; futures firmer. Beef quiet and unchanged. Middles—Long clear Western 9c. Lard dull; prime steam 10⅝@10¾c. Butter dull; Western 14@20c. Cheese in good demand at 6@6½c. Whisky dull at $1 12.

CINCINNATI, December 15.—Cotton quiet at 10¾c. Flour in good demand. Wheat—Red winter higher but scarce; No. 2 red $1 42@1 43. Corn easier at 42@44c. Oats in fair demand at 28@30c. Rye firmer at 70@72c. Barley nominal. Pork firmer at 16 25@16 50. Lard—Demand fair and prices higher; steam rendered 10½c; kettle 10¾@11c. Bulk meats quiet but firm at 6@6¼c@8½c@8¾c, according to age. Bacon dull and nominal at 7½@9c. Whisky firm at $1 12. Sugars unchanged; hards 9½c; short ribs 7¾@7 80c. Hams 9c for 15 lb sugar-cured. Butter steady at $1 07. Butter steady and unchanged.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15.—Cloverseed 9@9½c. Timothy, extra $3 75@4 00; Minnesota family $6 37½@6 62½. Wheat steady; Western red and amber $1 41@1 42; white $1 45@1 50 for No. 1. Corn easier; No. 2 mixed 52½@53c; sunny; old scarce; yellow, old, 60@61c; do new 52@53c. Oats dull at 35@36c. Whisky dull; Western $1 11. Butter firm and in fair demand; Bradford county extras 29@30c; do firsts 27@ 28c; New York and other do firsts 27@28c. Cheese dull; Western 13½@14½c. Eggs—Western, fresh, 29@30.

NEW ORLEANS, December 15.—Flour firm; superfine $5 00; double extra $5 50; treble do $5 70@7 25. Corn steady at 57@58c. Oats firm at 36c. Pork dull; new $17@17 25. Lard dull; tierces 10⅝@10¾c; keg 11c. Whisky quiet at $1 08@1 10. Coffee—Ordinary to prime jobbing at 17@20c. Sugar firm; fair to prime 8¾@9¼c; to fully fair 7¾@7¾c. Molasses quiet; common 30@40c; centrifugal finer at 55c.

BALTIMORE, December 15.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat steady; Western red $1 36@1 38. Corn—Western mixed firm; old 56c; new 54@55c. Oats firmer; Western 34@35c. Rye firm at 70@72c. Cloverseed dull at 13½@ 14c per ℔. Provisions firm. Mess pork $17 25. Bacon firm; clear rib 9¼c, packed. Lard—Refined 11¼@11¾c. Butter unchanged. Coffee actively selling at 17@20c. Whisky firm at $1 12.

LIVERPOOL, December 15.—California white wheat average 10s 9d@11s 1d; do club 10s 10d@11s 3d; Western spring 9s 4d@9s 5d; do red 9s 8d@10s 4d; winter 10s@10s 2d. Flour 23s@28s. Corn 30s@32s. Oats 34s@34s. Barley 34s. Pork—Receipts 250 barrels; new mess for quarters, including 13,000 American. Cloverseed 96s@98s. Pork 69s.

TOLEDO, December 15.—Flour quiet but steady. Wheat dull; No. 3 white Wabash $1 24½; amber $1 32; seller January $1 37½; seller February $1 40; rejected red winter $1 10; seller January $1 12½. Corn steady; high mixed 44c; low mixed 43c; No. 2 white 44c; rejected new, 42c. Oats firm; No. 2 35½c; Michigan nominally 36c.

LONDON, December 15.—Cotton firmer but not quotably higher. Flour in good demand. Wheat dull; red $1 30; amber $1 35; white $1 40. Corn steady at 32s 6d@34s. Oats dull at 36c. Oats dull; white 40c; mixed 37c. Pork firm at 69s. Bulkmeats dull and nominal. Bacon dull at 40s@45s. Whisky dull at $1 06.

MILWAUKEE, December 15.—Flour quiet but firm. Wheat closed dull but steady; No. 1 Milwaukee $1 25¾; No. 2 $1 19; No. 3 $1 09¾. Corn active; No. 2 at 45½c. Oats steady; No. 2 at 29c. Rye quiet; No. 1 70c. Barley easier; No. 2 spring nominally 76@78c.

MEMPHIS, December 15.—Cotton firm at 10⅝c. Flour firm; choice family $7 50. Corn steady; mixed 54@55c; white 60@60c. Bacon dull and nominal. Lard quiet; tierces 11c.

OSWEGO, December 15.—Wheat steady; No. 1 Milwaukee club $1 40; No. 2 $1 35; No. 1 white Michigan $1 36; amber do $1 40. Michigan $1 36. Corn dull; Western mixed 56c.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad.

A J Thompson, 3 cars benzine; I Leisy & Co, 1 do beer; A J Dimble, 1 do lumber; Fuller, L & B, 1 do do; Calhoun & Co, 1 do do; U P M Co, 1 do do; Lockhart & F, 11 do oil bbls; J M Palson, 1 do staves; Burch, J & Co, 1 do do; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do; J S Stanton, 18 bills camp chairs; W F Schmertz, 3 cases boots and shoes; J W Morrison, 1 do do; Jas Hay & Co, 1 do do; Jones & Co, 1 do do; Hartley Bros, 1 do do; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do; Kepler & Co, 1 do do; Hartley Bros, 1 do do; Kepler & F, 1 brl do; J Woodward, 1 do pf of stones; Miller, M & P, 27 bars steel; Dilworth, Porter & Co, 1 car pig iron; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do; G Miller, 1 car oats; M W Sackett, 8 casks wares; H Coulmer & Bro, 1 do do; Hill, West & Co, 1 do do; Jaeger, A & Co, 1 do do; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do; Hartley Bros, 1 do do; Duke P & Anderson, 1 bx skin; Paine, A & Co, 57 bbls oil; H Kelly & Co, 1 do do; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do; Farins; McIntire & B, 2 bbls barley, 1 do; Graham; J Irwin, 2 empt carboys; Kramer & Co, 1 do do; Wm Grant & Co, 1 do do

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., ROOM 23, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 15, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND.—Dir.	WIND.—Miles P hour	Weath
7 A. M.	30 2'3	14	81	N. W.	11	Fair.
2 P. M.	29 7'5	23	69	S. W.	17	Clear.
9 P. M.	29 280	30	48	S. W.	12	Cloudy

Mean barometer...29.361 Highest thermom... 32
Mean thermom ...24.2 Lowest thermom... 13

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corner Penn avenue and Sixth street, Pittsburgh. Day and evening sessions. Students admitted at any time. For terms call on, or address J. C. Smith, A. M. Principal.

Judicial Appointments.

Governor Hartranft has appointed the Hon. S. Newton Pettis, of Meadville, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Crawford county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Hon. Walter H. Lowrie, Mr. Pettis was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, in 1826; was admitted to the bar, in Pennsylvania, in 1850, and in 1861 was appointed by President Lincoln a Justice of the United States Court for Colorado. He resigned this position before the close of the war, and devoted his whole time to adding to the ranks of the Union army. He was elected Representative to the Fortieth Congress to fill the unexpired term of D. A. Finney, and at the close of session resumed the practice of his profession, which he has continued ever since. He is an able and experienced lawyer, and will doubtless render entire satisfaction in the higher sphere to which he has been called.

Pittsburgh's Mail Facilities.

A good deal has been written of late concerning the reorganization of the Limited Mail service, and some confusion has resulted from misapprehension as to what has actually been done. On inquiry at the office of Postmaster Negley, yesterday, we learned the following facts:

There is now a double daily service between New York and Pittsburgh, instead of the single service which followed the discontinuance of the Limited Mail, in November last. One train leaves New York at 8:35 A. M. and arrives at Pittsburgh at 11:11 P. M. This has a through mail connection at Pittsburgh, over the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, and the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis lines, but no postal car connection west of Pittsburgh. This is called the Day line, and takes the place of the Limited Mail, so far as indicated. Returning mail leaves Pittsburgh on the Day Express at 8:26 A. M., and arrives at New York at 10:25 P. M. The Night Line leaves New York at 5:55 P. M., and arrives at Pittsburgh at 8:11 A. M. This train has a postal car connection at Pittsburgh, over the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway to St. Louis, and through connections over the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway. Returning this line leaves Pittsburgh at 8:25 P. M., and arrives at New York at 10:25 A. M. The Postmaster here has received no official information, from any source, as to the restoration of the Limited Mail service, as it existed prior to its discontinuance at the close of the Centennial.

The Commission on City Charters.

It will be recollected that Governor Hartranit, in his last annual message, directed the attention of the Legislature to the evils arising from our municipal systems, and the necessity of adopting a uniform code for the government of all the cities of the Commonwealth. The recommendations of the Executive were widely commended by the press of the State; and the Legislature, in May following, passed a bill authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission, not exceeding eleven in number, to devise a plan or plans for the government of the cities of the Commonwealth, and report to the next Legislature. Pursuant to this act the Governor has appointed the following named gentlemen as members of the commission: Butler B. Strang, Tioga county; Wm. Calder, Harrisburg; F. M. Magee, Pittsburgh; W. B. Rodgers, Allegheny; O. N. Jackson, New Castle; John C. Bullit, Charles Gibbons, Charles Thompson Jones and h. Newlan Feil, Philadelphia; B. Marcisy Boyer and M. B. Moffitt, Norristown.

The commission is required to meet and organize, within one month after the appointment, at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, at Harrisburg, with power of adjournment as to time and place. The commission has power to examine the books and papers of any department of any city in the State; to examine under oath any person in relation to city affairs; to issue subpœnas, compel the attendance of witnesses, etc. The compensation allowed is fifteen dollars per day each for every day necessarily employed in the performance of their duties.

The task assigned this commission is a very important one, and from the character of the gentlemen composing it we are safe in predicting that it will be faithfully and satisfactorily performed.

Sad Cases of Poverty and Suffering.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The severe weather of the past week has developed much suffering from poverty in our city. Cases of the most affecting character have come under the notice of the visitors of the Association for the Improvement of the Poor. One of the coldest days last week, a visitor found a woman with an infant three days old lying on a poor bed with only one quilt for a covering, and it borrowed. Fortunately, the visitor had a few yards of flannel with her, in which she wrapped the shivering mother and babe.

Another case strongly appealing to our sympathies is that of a husband and father on the verge of insanity. Insufficient food and sorrow from not being able to provide for his family have driven him almost to despair. Temporary relief was granted and words of encouragement to cheer his despondingheart.

But few of our laboring men have taken warning by the past two years of panic to economize their resources, hence early winter found even among those who had a fair amount of work through the summer, many a home barren of the commonest necessaries of life.

Our association is doing all it possibly can to relieve the immediate wants of the needy, but doubtless there will be much suffering borne in silence.

It is hard to discriminate, but why are there so many Roman Catholics continually besieging the Central office and our private residences for help? The aim of the association is to induce each denomination to care for its own poor. The church that will not provide for its own poor "hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel." Those having no church connection need assistance; and were the Catholics aided as they desire, there would be little left for others. It is expected that each denomination will bar from all intoxicating drinks, and the disregard of this rule will debar from future relief. The design is, to make the party to help his own improvement. This is a union work, with a Board of Managers from nearly all The Protestant denominations in the city. Their aim is to relieve the poor as they can with the means at their disposal; and above all to encourage the poor that are clothed and fed, to attend church and send their children to the Sabbath school.

Is it not a grand work, elevating men and women from their moral degradation, and placing them where they and their children will be useful in the community and the house of God?

From the evidence already given of the liberality of the people in this city, there can be no doubt but the Association will be liberally sustained.

Five hundred and forty visits were made during the past week, and a large number of applicants were relieved.

The officers of the Board of Managers are:—President, Mrs. W. A. Herron; Vice President, Mrs. M. Harding; Treasurer, Mrs. Geo. Woods; Secretary, Mrs. H. H. McGeffin; Superintendent of Central Office, Mrs. H. C. Lippincott.

The Central Office is at No. 100 Liberty street. Mrs. J. S. C.

A MIDNIGHT BLAZE.

Destruction of a Dwelling in the Third Ward, Allegheny—Loss $1,000.

At twelve o'clock last night a fire broke out in a two-story stone dwelling house with frame addition, near Hemlock street, Third ward, Allegheny, completely destroying the building and all the furniture. The house was owned by a Mr. Kerr, and occupied by Mr. A. H. Cochran and family. The building was worth about $700 and the furniture $300. No insurance. Mr. Cochran and his family had barely time to gather up a few articles of clothing, so rapidly was the building devoured by the flames. The fire originated in the kitchen, but is not known in what manner. Chief Crow, who was on his way home, was the first to discover the fire and he struck an alarm from box forty-three, which was promptly responded to by the engines of that district. The rapid progress of the flames, however, aided as they were by the high wind then prevailing, had left the steamers little to do, as the building was nearly consumed before their arrival. There were fortunately no other houses in close proximity to the burned building. Otherwise nothing could have averted a disastrous conflagration.

THE alarm from box 132, at two o'clock this morning, was caused by a defective flew in a house occupied by a Mr. Smith, on Bingham street, between Seventh and Eighth, South Side. Damage inconsiderable.

Pratt Sells Holiday Books
at half price at Bailey's auction room.

THE SILK ROBBERY.

Nearly all the Stolen Goods Recovered—The Thieves Permitted to Escape by Stupid Detectives—Two Men Arrested on Suspicion.

Nearly all the silks stolen from the store of Boggs & Buhl, Allegheny, Wednesday night, have been recovered, and their recovery was not brought about by the brilliant (?) Videocqs who started out to work up the case. If there is credit due to anybody it is to the private watchman of Eggleston's building, on Fourth avenue, where the goods were found. He had things in good shape for the capture of the thieves but, as the following statement of facts will show, the detectives spoiled his game:

About ten o'clock on the night of the robbery Mr. Sanford S. Thompson, the private watchman referred to, was sitting in his room in the second story of the Eggleston building, when he heard a footstep in the hallway, followed by something falling. He opened the door and with the light reflected from the room, noticed a man in the act of picking up a large sized satchel from the floor, the strap of which had broken. In the other he held a second bag similar in appearance and well filled. The watchman accosted him with: "Where are you going with those satchels at this hour of the night?"

"I rented a lodging room in the third story, and am moving my things in," replied the stranger.

Then the watchman was invited to assist him up stairs with the luggage, which request was complied with.

Unlocking the door, the two entered a room not containing a solitary thing, and after securing a lantern, the watchman proceeded down stairs to find assistance in taking up a trunk. On the street in front of the entrance was a small covered wagon with a grey horse attached, and inside the vehicle was a large sized and very heavy trunk, with another man carefully watching over it. The watchman also assisted in carrying the trunk up stairs, after which one of the men interrogated him as follows:

"Are you the janitor of this building?"

"Yes."

"About what time do you leave?"

"After the lights can be extinguished."

"What hour is that?"

"About half past six o'clock."

This appeared to satisfy the men, as they handed him a quarter for his service and hastily departed, making sure, however, to secure their door against invaders before leaving.

Next morning, when Mr. English had read an account of the robbery he mentioned the matter in the presence of Thompson, who at once said that he believed the crime had been committed by the tenants of the fourth floor room alluded to, and that the goods were in the valises and trunk he had assisted in carrying up stairs. His reasons for this suspicion were that the valise and trunk were all new, that the valises were just the shape and size of a package of silk, and that he thought this a strange sort of baggage for two strangers to place in a lodging room. Mr. English told him to open the door and make an examination. This, however, could not be done for want of a key to fit the lock. The watchman, however, was equal to the emergency, and going into an adjoining room on the fourth floor, he raised the window, came out in front of the building, walked along the coping to the next window, hoisted it and went in. Upon entering he found, in addition to the trunk and valises—which were afterwards discovered to be filled with goods, and had apparently not been touched since being deposited—a large number of packages of silks and other goods lying loose on the floor, which had probably been brought in the room after the departure of the watchman at six o'clock in the morning. Mr. English having been informed of the nature of Thompson's discovery soon after communicated the intelligence to Messrs. Boggs & Buhl. One of the firm then repaired to the Allegheny Mayor's office, reaching there about three o'clock, and lodged an information and secured the services of four or five detectives, who were instructed to arrest the offenders should they be overtaken. These detectives and Watchman Thompson were stationed on the premises, and remained in readiness all the evening until morning, without discovering any traces of the robbers, further than those mentioned.

It is quite clear that the thieves were far shrewder than the detectives, and equally clear they dropped on the game of the latter. They could scarcely have done this if there not been a stupid bungler among the detectives, or several of them, who managed to give their scheme away while setting their trap. There certainly was never a better chance presented to detectives to entrap a pair of thieves than on this occasion. The opportunity was lost through unparalleled stupidity.

The stolen goods were returned to the store of Boggs & Buhl yesterday morning. A member of the firm states that fourfifths of the articles stolen had been recovered, but what became of the remainder is a mystery. They must have been secreted somewhere else. The missing articles are three pieces of silk, one piece of waterproof and some sacking, in all to the amount about $600. The firm was highly pleased at recovering what they did, which amounts to about $7,000, although the goods were found in a sad condition.

The owner or lessee of the building stated that the two strangers rented the room last week, which is the understanding that they were to lodge there. Both of them are total strangers to all who have seen them. After paying for the room in advance the fellows stated that they would move in their goods on Thursday, and from that it would appear that this robbery had been contemplated at the time. On the door was found a new lock, put on by them no doubt to keep out all intruders.

The robbery was undoubtedly committed before nine o'clock at night, as the wagon used to haul away the goods was seen in front Schwartz' drug store, corner of Park way and Federal street, at or shortly after nine, and disappeared about half past nine, which would give time to reach the Fourth avenue building at ten, the hour at which young Thompson fixed their arrival.

The fact that the robbery was committed before nine o'clock at night is another appeal to the Mayor to place the night patrol on duty at eight o'clock as formerly. Ever since the recent order went into effect the thieves have been doing their work before nine o'clock, when the city is poorly guarded.

The Pittsburgh detectives have arrested two men on the suspicion that they were implicated in the robbery. The names of the prisoners are John Barker, proprietor of the Glasshouse Exchange, on Fourth avenue, below Market street, and a man named George Ellis, a barkeeper. There were many nods and winks, and mysterious movements, and attempts to look wise, together with much reticence, on the part of our detectives last night, and it is thereabeyond the power of our reporter to enlighten the reader as to the arrest of Barker and Ellis.

GREEN, THE MURDERER.

A Second Death Warrant Read to Him Yesterday.

The warrant from Governor Hartranft for the execution of Wm. Green was received by Sheriff Fife yesterday and read to the prisoner, about three o'clock in the afternoon, in the office of the county jail. The warrant fixes Monday, the 12th day of February next, between the hours of ten A. M. and three P. M., as the time of execution. Green, it will be remembered, was tried before Judge Sterrett and convicted of the murder of his half brother, Samuel Marshall, near Mansfield, Beaver county. Subsequently the indictment was lost, but it was supplied by oral testimony, and the prisoner was sentenced to death. A death warrant was signed fixing his execution for the 7th of September last, but the counsel for Green afterwards took out a writ of error which superseded the death warrant, and the latter was returned to the Governor by Sheriff Fife. The judgment of the lower court was affirmed by the Supreme Court at its sitting here last month, and hence this second death warrant.

When Sheriff Fife appeared in the jail office, in pursuance of his sad and solemn duty, Green was brought out, when the Sheriff at once stated his mission and proceeded to read the document, the prisoner meanwhile showing a calm demeanor, betraying no excitement whatever. When he had finished reading the warrant the Sheriff admonished the prisoner to prepare for death, saying that, although efforts were being made by his friends to procure a commutation of his sentence to imprisonment for life, the result was a matter of great uncertainty; indeed there was little reason to hope that the efforts put forth by his friends would be successful. Green replied that he was fully prepared to die. He felt that he had made his peace with God, and if he could not get justice in this world he knew he would in the next. If it was God's will he should suffer death for saving his life, he would submit without complaining, hard as it was.

The prisoner was removed to his cell, where he will be kept until he is led forth to the gallows. It has not yet been decided where the execution will take place, but it is thought it will be in the space between the Treasurer's office and the right wing of the jail. The yard lately used for this purpose is now occupied by the new office of the Prothonotary.

Discovery of Silver Ore.

A discovery has lately been made on Cheat river, which is, perhaps, fraught with benefit to Pittsburgh. A well known citizen of this community yesterday exhibited to us a letter giving the facts of the discovery of a valuable vein of silver ore on the property of Messrs. Chess, Smyth & Co., on Cheat river. The ore lies in a vein six inches deep, and is easily mined. Five pounds of the ore yielded, on assay, eight dollars of silver. Two men removed $750 worth of the ore in a single day. The discovery of oil brought a flood of prosperity to Pittsburgh, at a time when business was greatly depressed; and it would be a little singular if the discovery of silver, so near our city, should, in the demand for smelting materials, give renewed activity to our machine shops, and help out of the present depression.

JOHN BUSH, on a charge of vagrancy, was yesterday sent to the Workhouse by Mayor Phillips for thirty days.

"A STITCH in time saves nine." A bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup will often save large doctor bills. Keep it handy, for it only costs 25 cents.

THE CITY HEALTH BOARD.

The Small-pox—Appointment of Vaccinators—Report on the Cremation of De Palm and Conclusions.

A regular meeting of the Board of Health was held yesterday afternoon. Present Messrs. Asdale, Brush, Arthurs, McCord, McCann, Thomas and Slagle, President.

STATISTICS.

Dr. Snively presented the following statement of the public health for November 1876.

The total number of deaths in the five weeks ending December 2, was 229. The death rate was equivalent to seventeen per 1,000 inhabitants annually. There were forty-four deaths of infants underone year, and fifty-six of children between the ages of one and five years, making forty-four per cent. of the total mortality. A large majority of these deaths were due to croup, pneumonia and infantile convulsions. During the month there were sixteen deaths due to violent causes.

As compare with previous months, there was an increase in the prevalence of all infectious diseases except typhoid fever.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	No. Cases.	No. Deaths.
Smallpox	27	7
Scarlet fever	28	8
Typhoid fever	5	6
Diphtheria	11	14

Comparative mortality—

November 1873, four weeks	224
November 1874, four weeks	207
November 1875, four weeks	155
Novemebr 1876, five weeks	229

The Health Officer Colonel Gray, reported for November 283 nuisances abated; 2 suits instituted; 46 permits issued. Cash received from fines $23. Number of cases of smallpox visited 24.

The reports were accepted and approved.

Dr. Asdale, from the Sanitary Committee, recommended the following appointments as Assistant Vaccinators, to act under the rules of the Board, the vaccine matter to be furnished at cost price and twenty-five cents to be paid for each successful vaccination:

Dr. N. W. Brown, Butler street.
Dr. D. McMasters, East Liberty.
Dr. J. B. Murdoch, Center avenue.
Dr. T. C. Christy, near Soho.
Dr. Evans, Hazlewood.
Dr. N. N. Patten, Carson street, South Side.
Dr. E. S. Stephenson, Main street, Temperanceville.

The Sanitary Committee recommended that hereafter vaccine quills be purchased direct from the Pennsylvania Vaccine Farm. It was ordered that the quills be sold to the physicians appointed at eighteen cents each.

THE CREMATION.

Dr. Asdale from the committee appointed to attend the DePalm cremation presented a full report of the proceedings together with the following conclusions:

1. For the purpose of cremation nothing is required but an appratus of suitable kind, simple in its construction and which may be easily operated, small space is needed and no skilled labor is required.

2. Cremation is not only compatible with the employment of religious rites, but in its accomplishment does not of necessity violate the sanctity of the dead; also it may be conducted with greater ease, economy, and safety to the attendants than in humation.

3. Cremation instantly destroys all infectious quality in the body submitted to the process, and effectually prevents any injury to the living possible to arise from the remains at any future time.

4. Cremation is especially to be recommended as a means to avoid the dangers likely to arise through intermural interments, i e: the dispersion of a great number of the dead in close proximity to large masses of population.

5. Whilst evidence is not wanting to show that inhumations of the dead may prove, *and have proven*, most pernicious to the living—on the other hand, it appears satisfactorily established that burial of dead bodies where managed under carefully considered regulations regarding space and depth of graves, and respecting the character of the soil and drainage of the same, and isolation and care of the grounds—need result in no appreciable disadvantage to the living.

6. Cremation is, therefore, an innovation of modern established custom, which must encounter prejudiced and unreasonable public opposition, although when calmly considered entirely justifiable on whatever grounds reviewed, but not at present demanded as a sanitary necessity.

7. The first and most important conclusion is, that the location and regulation of cemetries and burial places should be by law, accomplished under the general advisement and supervision of such body as a State Board of Health or other authorized and qualified body.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the next annual report.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Stowe.

Chas Wilson pleaded *nolo contendere* to a charge of entering a building with intent to commit a felony. J. E. Anderson was the prosecutor.

A notte pros. was allowed in the case of John A. McGraw, charged by Wm. M. Clancy with assault and battery.

Francis Clark indicted for larceny and receiving stolen goods, on oath of Wm. M. Bartzell, pleaded *nolo contendere* to the second count.

Myers Snell pleaded *nolo contendere* to two indictments for forgery, preferred by Nathan Jones.

H. Frank Koethe, indicted for rape, on oath of Frederick Burns, was acquitted.

Frederick Herz and Adam Haley are on trial on a charge of misdemeanors in office.

Surety and abandonment cases will be taken up to day.

The constables of the First, Second, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-first and Twenty-fourth wards of Pittsburgh, of the Fourth, Seventh and Ninth wards of Allegheny city, of the boroughs of Sharpsburg and Elizabeth, and of Shaler township, will appear before the Grand Jury, on Monday, December 18, 1876, for the purpose of prosecuting on their returns.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

Morgan, *et al.* vs. Fawcett *et al.* Previously reported. Still on trial.

Robert Robb, for use, vs. Mary Ann Daly. Juror withdrawn and the cause continued.

Wm. Dalzell & Son vs. Wm. F. Richard son. Reported yesterday. Verdict for defendant for $38 75, the same being a certified balance in his favor.

John Neurod vs. Richard Heffman. Juror withdrawn and cause continued.

George W. Parker vs. Charles Gayton; action for damages for personal injuries received by being run over by a horse and wagon. On trial.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

Erk & Oswold vs. Newhard and wife. Compulsory non suit entered.

Bushwell, for use, of Lockhart & Frew vs. Union and Storing Company; previously reported. On trial.

Jacob Kemmell vs. Kenworthy & Goodwin, action for damage to property from the flow of water from defendant's property. On trial.

Theresa Kirschbaum vs. Samuel Fowler, *et al.* Motion made and reasons filed for a new trial.

United States District Court—Judge Ketcham.

Reppert & Williams, bankrupts, city. Petition of Mercantile Library Hall Company presented for payment of rent due and referred to Register Shafer.

Lewis Strauss, bankrupt. Rule granted on Jacob Klee to show cause why he should not deliver to assignee certain books.

J. R. Bigham, bankrupt. Rule granted on Register Brotherline to show cause why he should not return certain records. Returnable on the 27th inst.

Harry Mix, bankrupt. Petition for discharge presented and usual order made.

A. F. Bramm, bankrupt. Petition of assignee presented and an order made appointing Register Woodruff to ascertain and liquidate certain liens.

Geo. B. Hill, E. H. Love and J. N. Hill, bankrupts, city. Petition for discharge presented and usual order made.

Charles Garrett, bankrupt. Hearing on motion for an injunction continued until further order of Court.

Wm. McC Dravo, bankrupt; petition for discharge presented and usual order made.

Carrier & Bacon, bankrupts. The assignees report presented and confirmed *nisi*, and order made for private sale of certain lands.

Dr. R. Bowman, bankrupt, J. W. Bailey appointed assignee.

Heinz, Nobie & Co., bankrupts, city. Report of Register Shafer received and referred back for further testimony.

F. W. Heidekoper vs. A. E. Bronson. Order made for a hearing on the motion for an injunction, on the 14th prox. Meantime restraining Fowler & Son.

Court Notes.

James M. Caldwell, Esq., was yesterday admitted to practice, in Common Pleas No. 2, on motion of Thomas C. Lazear, Esq. Mr. Caldwell has for several years been connected with the press of this city. "Jimmy" is a good journalist, and we hazard nothing in predicting that he will have a successful career as a lawyer. Judge Kirkpatrick, in entertaining the motion for Mr. Caldwell's admission to the bar, took occasion to say that he had received personal assurance from the members of the Examining Committee that he had acquitted himself in a highly creditable manner. Mr. C. is a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, and prepared himself for admission to the bar in the office of John Barton, Esq.

Mr. George A. Lenkard was admitted to practice in the Criminal Court, on motion of District Attorney Monteith. He read law in Major Montooth's office, was a hard student, and passed a most creditable examination.

The will of Henry Heth, late of Jefferson township, was filed yesterday in the Register's office. The document bears the date of October 16, 1876, and appoints decedent's wife, Susanna Heth, executrix.

The Board of Health on Cremation.

It will be seen from the report of the conclusions made by the committee appointed to attend the DePalm cremation at Little Washington, that some members of our Board of Health strongly favor that idea of burning the dead bodies after death. The Board as a body did not, however, incline to take the step of indorsing it, although at the conclusion of the reading Dr. Arthurs made the stereotyped motion to "accept and adopt." President Slagle put the question only to accept, file and print, and in that form the action is recorded.

FROM BEAVER.

Close of the Fall Session of the College—Grand Concert—Court and New Court House, &c.

The fall session of this institution so highly prized by the more enterprising of public spirited citizens of this quiet retreat, came to a close Thursday evening. In conversation with teachers and pupils, I find that it is considered one of the most pleasand and profitable in its history. Removed as it is from the excitement and incidents of a large town there seems to be little to break in upon the routine of school life, so essential for the discipline that should be sought after by pupils and teachers in a course of study. Since the enlargement of the building some three years ago, its accommodations, school, recitation and music rooms are unsurpassed, while no institution outside of some of our oldest male colleges has as fine a hall for concerts and public entertainments.

The hall was well filled by an audience that evidently assembled expecting a treat in a musical way, nor were they disappointed. Prof. Johannessen, the principal of the music department, is a musician of superior taste and attainments. He manipulates the piano, pipe, organ or the violin with equal facility. His own fine taste and keen appreciation of the artistic in music were manifest in all the performances of the evening. Mr. and Mrs. Morrick, of Newport, Ky., who assisted, are amateurs of superior attainments. Mrs. M. has a very rich voice and under fine control. The following was the programme for the evening:

PART I.

1. Overture for eight hands—"Fra Diavolo" Auber
Misses Weyand, Stone, Warwood and Johannessen.
2. Piano solo—"Golden Bells" ..... Smith
Miss K. Willard.
3. Vocal solo—"Ah! those were delightful moments" ..... Proch
Mrs. Fred. Merrick, violin obligato by Mr. Merrick.
4. Piano solo—"Comin' thro' the Rye" ....Jaell
Miss L. Stone
5. Vocal solo—"Come, the bark is moving," Torry
Miss A. Beacom.
6. Trio for piano, violin and alto .....Lachner
Misses McKibben, Messrs. Merrick and Johannessen.
7. March Triomphale, for two pianos...Satter
Miss Weyand and Johannessen.

PART II.

1. Overture for eight hands—"Le Bar bier de Seville," ..... Rossina.
Misses Porter, Mills, Taylor and Johannessen.
2. Vocal Solo—"Tis not in soft low measures" ..... Lachner.
Mrs. Merrick, Violin Obligato by Mr. Merrick.
3. Trio for Piano, Organ and Violin "I Lombardi" ..... a r. by Herman.
Misses Warwood, Lytle and Johannessen.
4. Vocal Solo—"The Message." ....Blumenthal.
Miss Fannie Weyand.
5. Piano Solo—"Lucrezia Borgia."..... Smith.
Miss H. Warwood.
6. Violin Solo—"Cadence de Ballet" de Beriot.
Prof. Johannessen.
7. Valse Brill for eight hands ..... Labitzky.
Misses Johnson, Montgomery, Jack and Shaw.

Although the programme was a long one several of the numbers were encored. If we were to offer any criticism upon the it we should say it was too uniformly classic and not quite enough of the sprightly to please the popular audience. We would not neglect to mention the singing of Miss Patterson, one of the vocal teachers of the institution. Her voice is of the purest quality, and she sings with great ease and much pathos.

The young ladies left this morning for their winter vacation the arrangement of the terms being such as to open the winter session immediately after the holidays, thus preventing the breaking up of the school so many times as is done when a holiday vacation occurs in the midst of a term.

THE NEW COURT HOUSE.

The court now in session here, it is expected, is the last that will be held in the old court house, which is soon to be taken down and removed. The new building is a very imposing structure, and as it stands in the center of a fine public square, it appears to good advantage. It is believed to be, in its external appearance and in its internal arrangements, the most complete court house in the State. The portraits of Chief Justice Agnew, of the Presiding Judge, Hice, and Secretary of State M. S. Quay, all trustees of Geneva College, are the ceiling of the court room. The architect, of your city, Mr. Boyd, and builder, Mr. W. M. Keyser, of New Brighton, have done a work with this building which entitles them to the gratitude of the people of Beaver county. VIDI.

At Home.

Gildenfenney & Co. are now comfortably settled in their new quarters, and have an elegant storeroom and splendid stock of goods for the holidays, including gift books for all ages and all conditions. Their goods in this line embrace everything, from the gaudily colored primer for the youngster to the most elaborately illustrated and fancifully bound presentation book. They also have dairies, pocket books and notions of all sorts, as well as ordinary everyday books for fireside reading, with all the magazines and pictorials, foreign and domestic, the s'ory paper, etc. They are the agents here for that wonderfully cheap publication, the Lakeside Library, each number of which contains a story by some noted author, complete, sold for ten cents, the usual price of which is from fifty cents to two dollars.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

GEORGE HALL, colored, was committed to jail by Alderman Burke, for trial on a charge of *fornez. et cet.*, preferred by Lizzie Mails.

AN old man named Christ. Hepp, who has been an inmate of the Allegheny Home for about twenty years, died at that institution on Thursday.

GEORGE MASON, who was arrested in this city last summer on the charge of robbing the National bank at Wellsborough, Tioga county, has been acquitted.

GEORGE LOWER, general traveling agent of the Kansas Pacific Railway Company, was in the city yesterday, looking after the interests of the company.

MR. WM. BIGHAM, of the firm of Blanchard & Co., grocers, died suddenly yesterday afternoon, at his residence, on Rebecca street, Allegheny.

The Allegheny Health Officers should kick against the storing of ice which is being cut near the "dump" boat and at the mouth of the Penitentiary sewer.

TWENTY prisoners, convicted in the Criminal Court of various crimes, during the week, are in jail awaiting sentence. They will all know their fate to-day.

The physicians in the Board of Health had quite a discussion at the meeting yesterday on the subject of vaccination. The saying that "doctors will differ" was verified.

H. J. MCGIVERN, a Sharpsburg constable, was committed to jail yesterday on a capias for damages in trover and conversion. The proceedings were instituted by John Christoffel.

DANIEL KANE, charged on oath of Louis Reichert with interfering with an officer while executing a legal process, was committed for a hearing by Alderman McMasters yesterday.

OFFICER MERRIMAN, of Allegheny, found a five pound box of clear candy toys near the Federal street depot Thursday night, which can be had at the Mayor's office by the owner.

THE Board of Health proposes to compete with the druggists in the sale of vaccine virus quills. It was well suggested, however, by a member that druggists paid license and business tax.

THE Committee on Teachers and Salaries of Allegheny School Controllers have decided to recommend to the board that the number of principals in the city be reduced to five, who shall have supervision of all the schools.

REV. W. PITT TURNER, pastor of Fifth Avenue M. E. Church, will occupy his pulpit to-morrow. A number of seekers after religion were at the altar, and some conversions have occurred during the week at this church.

AT AN election of McCandless Lodge, No. 302, A. Y. M., Thursday evening, the following officers were chosen: W. M., R. L. Hamilton; S. W., George Teese, Sr.; J. W., H. T. Brady; Secretary, Wm. Clark; Treasurer, John Ferrine.

AN election was held in the Zoradatha Lodge, No. 448, at Sharpsburg, Thursday evening, with the following result: W. M., G. F. Kindt: S. W., James M. Acheson; J. W., S. C. Young; Secretary, J. D. Hieber; Treasurer, Peter Keil, Jr.

ON Wednesday of last week Thomas Kaine, a little son of James Kaine, of Dunbar Furnace, was horribly crushed, by falling from a train of cars filled with ore. He lingered until Tuesday of the present week, when death ended his sufferings.

THE work of constructing the Duquesne Inclined Plane, opposite the head of the Ohio, on the South Side, is progressing favorably. The boilers are in place, the piers are up, and the plane, it is thought, will be in running order by March 1, 1877.

THE Bellevue Eclectic Club have arranged for a series of lectures and other entertainments during the winter, the proceeds to go to the use of the Bellevue public schools and the Sabbath schools of the place. The enterprise is a very commendable one.

THE Pittsburgh District Conference will convene at Christ M. E. Church, Tuesday, December 19, and continue until Wednesday evening. Bishop Peck, by request of Presiding Elder Boyle, will preside. It is very important that all the local preachers and other official members of the body be present, as business of importance will be transacted.

Two youths named Fremont Saville and David Swords, were heard by Mayor Phillips yesterday morning on a charge of entering a building on the corner of Preble and Juniata streets, Allegheny, occupied by Alex. Patterson, but were discharged for want of evidence. It will be recollected that some time in November an attempt was made to blow up the safe in Mr. Patterson's office, and these young men were arrested on the suspicion of complicity in the affair.

CONSTABLE D. S. M'KNIGHT, of the Tenth ward, Allegheny, made information yesterday before Alderman D. L. Smith against James Cassidy and John Donnelly, for interfering him while serving a landlord's warrant at No. 38 Second street. Donnelly, he alleges, had taken the goods from the premises, loaded them on a wagon, and driven to the corner of Lacock and Sandusky streets, when his further progress was stopped by deponent. Warrant issued.

CHECKERS.

Second Day's Play—A Triumph for Pittsburgh.

The checker tournament is attracting much attention from the players of the game and others, and the attendance has been large. Yesterday afternoon play began between Mr. Thomas Boyle, of the South Side, one of our best players, and Mr. Martins. The champion won two games, when Mr. Boyle resigned his session in favor of Mr. F. Clouser, who repeated his score of the previous day, losing one game and one drawn.

In the evening the professional player met a Waterloo defeat at the hands of James Reed. They played six games in all, of which the first two, a Fife and a Laird and Lady game, respectively, were won by our youthful player, and the four succeeding games were drawn. This is the best score which has been made against Mr. Martins for years, and will not be equaled in the United States. Mr. Martins is a man of broad and liberal views, and while he knows he is regarded as a phenomenon, at the checker board, he has said by no person is invincible, and he fully expected some of the rising young players would yet vanquish him.

Following is the score of yesterday's play.

	Won.	Won.	Draw
Martins	2	Boyle	0
Martins	0	Clouser	4
Martins	0	Reed	4
Total	3	2	5

M. F. Clouser will play this afternoon, and James Reed in the evening.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

PROF. THOMAS C. STRONG, D. D., will preach in the Third Presbyterian church, to-morrow—morning and evening.

THE pastoral relation between Rev. S. J. Wilson, D.D., and the Sixth Presbyterian church of this city, has been dissolved.

A "SERVICE of SONG" for young men will be held this evening at the Young Men's Christian Association rooms, commencing at 7:45 o'clock.

THE United Presbyterian congregation of New Lisbon has extended a unanimous call to Rev. A. H. Elder, late of McKeesport, Pa., to become their pastor.

WORK on the Second Methodist Church, Allegheny will begin in a few weeks. The building committee propose to get the audience room ready for plastering this winter.

C. L. ROSE, Esq., will lead the Sunday school teachers' noon meeting to-day at the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms from 12 to 12:45 o'clock. Subject "Peter's Denial."

REV. R. W. PEARSON, D. D., will preach in Brown avenue morning and evening in Fourth Avenue Baptist Church and administer the ordinance of Believers Baptism after evening sermon.

REV. A. B. LEONARD, of Walnut Hill M. E. church, Cincinnati, formerly of this city, preached Sunday, December 3d, for the first time in nine months, without injury to his health.

REV. W. H. HORNBLOWER, of Western Theological Seminary, will officiate at the Second Presbyterian church (late Dr. How ard's) to morrow. Morning service 10½; evening service, 7½.

SERVICES in the Central Reformed Presbyterian church, Allegheny, J. W. Sproull, pastor, to-morrow evening at 7½ o'clock. Subject: "Manner in which Christ will manifest himself during the millenium."

THE New Methodist Episcopal Church at Indiana, Pa., Rev. John A. Danks, pastor, will be dedicated on the 21st of January next. Bishop Simpson, Drs. Bugbee and Pershing will have charge of the dedicatory services.

THE United Presbyterian Church of Idaville, Indiana, has lost forty-two members by death during the present pastorate of nine years. During the same time one hundred and forty-three persons have been admitted to membership in the congregation.

CHAPLAIN MCCABE will deliver a lecture at Fifth avenue M. E. church, Rev. W. Pitt Turner, pastor, Wednesday night, December 20, on "The Dark Side of Life by Prison," for the benefit of church interests. The Chaplain will favor the audience with some delightful songs.

THE *Christian Advocate*, in commenting on the burning of Dean De Palm, says: We regret that a Christian minister and President of a college should have countenanced by his presence, and an address, the heathenism of the revolting business which took place at Washington.

THE pastoral relation between Rev. G. H. Humphrey and the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham in this city, South Side, has been dissolved, and Mr. Humphrey has been dismissed to connect with the Presbytery of New York, where it is expected he will take charge of a Welsh church.

THE Baptist Social Union of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and vicinity will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 19th, at 7½ o'clock, in the Mount Washington Baptist Church, South Side, Rev. W. H. McKinney pastor. A paper will be presented by the Rev. J. S. Houston, to be followed by several short addresses.

THE fourth anniversary of the Woman's Missionary Society connected with the Sixth Avenue Baptist church, Allegheny City, will be held to-morrow evening, at seven o'clock. Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer will be read. Addresses will also be made by the Rev. J. S. Wright nour and Rev. B. F. Woodburn.

THE tenth anniversary of the Union Noon Prayer Meeting will be observed at the rooms of the